

Ballot for leadership of divided union is crucial for journalists

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

A crucial election is under way to find a new general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, one of the most arduous and thankless jobs in the trade union movement. It is his task to hold together a bitterly divided union.

After seven years in the job Mr Kenneth Morgan, a moderate, is leaving to become joint secretary at the Press Council. He says he has tried to keep both ends of the union attached to the middle; consequently both ends have attacked him relentlessly.

At most levels of the NUJ's structure the left wing is vociferous and influential. Where it is weakest is at the shop-floor level, where business is usually conducted without recourse to the cudgel or the works of Trotsky.

Few of the NUJ's 28,000 members are involved in the union beyond chapel level. At branch meetings attendance is low, and decisions, it is supposed, are often not representative of majority views.

The national executive leaves to the left, and the annual conference, the union's ultimate policy-making body, has slid down that slope.

It is against that background that the new leader will have to steer the union through several minefields, among them the closed shop and the introduction of new technology, which is threatening the industry's survival.

More than once, attempts by the national executive or the annual conference to start industrial action have failed because the membership has not been able to get to grips with new technology as soon as possible.

In conjunction with other unions, we drew up *Programme for Action*. But that was rejected by the membership and everybody packed up their tents and walked away. There ought to have been another attempt to bring out a package that would have been more acceptable.

Provincial journalists' pay is shockingly low and I think the industry can afford more. I link this issue with new technology. Where new technology is introduced in the provincial field, it is a piece of practical trade unionism.

I believe new technology can be beneficial but it has to be looked at carefully to make sure there is some benefit in the first place. Some employers have shown an inclination to rush into technology without its being a benefit to them, let alone the workers.

Mr Michael Bower, aged 34, a feature writer with *The Star*, Sheffield, a left-winger, closely involved in a dispute recently at Kettering, the longest in the union's history.

Provincial pay is the biggest scandal in the NUJ. While there are sections as badly paid, notably magazines and books in London, the provincial pay scale has festered for far too long. It is particularly unjust in view of the money that is being coined by provincial employers.

We will remedy it by attempting to educate members about the opportunity of securing considerable improvements in wages and conditions by being better organized, more aggressive and more determined.

Industrial action would be used if necessary as a last resort, but in many ways it is a defeat if you have to take it. Closed shops are a part of that process. The union is not as well organized as it should be, especially in the provincial newspaper field. The closed shop is not a piece of political dogma; it is a piece of practical trade unionism.

The NUJ does not have a closed-shop policy. Its policy is post-entry 100 per cent membership, and that is what we are trying to achieve in many Fleet Street houses for many years without any threat to press freedom. The union views the great "closed shop" row as simply an attempt to prevent it from organizing successfully as a trade union.

The switch from mechanical to electronic methods of printing has not yet achieved its full possibilities. But in the not-too-distant future we could have papers being transmitted to the home, which, as far as the NUJ is concerned, will mean a healthy future, but we have to care for the interests of other trade unionists in the production field.

Mr Gordon McLean, aged 49, secretary of Central London branch, a moderate:

I am 100 per cent in favour of post-entry closed shop. For many years in central London we have had nearly 700 per cent post-entry offices. The arguments about closed shops being a threat to press freedom have not been levelled out by the facts.

ADM (the annual delegate conference) is totally unrepresentative of the wide body of our membership. But how to devise a constituent assembly that is wholly representative of any organization is a difficult task. In more case, I believe the present ADM is destructive to the main ends and purposes of what the union is seeking to achieve.

At least a quarter of the union is allied to the central London area, and they feel, right or wrongly, that their interests are not represented at the ADM. Hence the pressure for a breakaway element in Fleet Street, which I am totally opposed to, but one can understand it.

Provincial journalists see themselves as the poor relations compared with Fleet Street, and rightly so. But whatever success

cause the membership has been pushed too far too quickly. As a result there are constant rumours of breakaway groups being formed to get away from the political dog-fighting. The new general secretary will earn his 25,000 a year in just trying to keep the union intact.

The election, which is being conducted by post by the Electoral Reform Society, closes on July 5, and the result should be known a few days later. Of the six candidates only one is a left-winger, Journalists' Charter, an extreme left-wing body, decided not to field a candidate. He would have been mauled.

The candidates, with their views, are as follows:

Mr Kenneth Ashton, aged 51, NUJ regional organizer, a moderate:

The union's policy on post-entry closed shops is the right one. Where the members want them, closed shops should be pursued. I would be prepared to investigate whether it could be done by law, but I believe that a voluntary agreement stands a better chance of success rather than relying on an instrument of law. I am happy that it should be a post-entry arrangement.

I wish we could get to grips with new technology as soon as possible. In conjunction with other unions, we drew up *Programme for Action*. But that was rejected by the membership and everybody packed up their tents and walked away. There ought to have been another attempt to bring out a package that would have been more acceptable.

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Mr Stephen Turner, aged 42, former of the chapel (office section chairman) of the Daily Mirror and convenor of NUJ chapels at Mirror Group Newspapers, writing in *The Journalist*:

Let's look at some of the *Mirror* benefits. Average salaries of around £7,000 a year; four-day week for most staff; four weeks' sabbatical holiday every four years on top of usual holidays; newspaper allowance of £5.15 a week; company cars available for writers and photographers; subs (sub-editors) get £2.20 a shift allowance for disturbed meal times; annual medicals, including smear tests and breast screening for women; insurance of seven times annual salary for the dependents of anyone killed in an accident on or off duty; a post-entry closed-shop agreement.

I have played a leading part in negotiating most of these benefits, which still leave a lot of room for improvement. I can hear you thinking that your firm could not afford such benefits. Don't you believe it. The *Mirror's* profits per employee are much less than most printing and broadcasting organizations.

The benefits for *Mirror* journalists and other national newspaper offices have grown in leaps and bounds since competent chapel officials more or less took over negotiations from head office. Other sections of the union have not done so well because head office has failed to match the enthusiasm and professional aspirations of members. This weakness has bred the dismay currently bedevilling the union.

When I was secretary of the magazine and book branch, people said they would not go to meetings because they were run by the reds. I wish those people would turn up at a few more meetings. You cannot criticize a union for obeying the wishes of the members who participate. The officials have

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Awards to be given for snort ideas

To encourage interest in sport and recreation research the Sports Council is offering a trophy and prize of up to £100 for dissertations submitted by students.

A first prize of £100 and a trophy will be awarded to the writer of the "sports dissertation of the year". The council may also award up to five prizes of £50 within the following subjects:

Geography and planning sport, sport and the natural or man-made environment; physiology, bio-mechanics, bio-chemistry, motor psychology of sports; coaching and performance sports psychology; physical education; recreation management, training, coaching; sports sociology; sports administration and institutions; sports information; economics of sport and recreation; management and operation of facilities.

Dissertations should be submitted by colleges and universities not later than October 30, to the Principal Research Officer, Sports Council, 70 Brompton Road, London, SW3 1EX.

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Lord Hailsham, then Head of the Home Civil Service, asked him to stay on and take over the smooth machine that underpins the honours system, which had been built up over many years by Sir Robert Knox. Sir Stuart has loved every minute of it.

He looks every inch the part. A tall, stately man of immense natural dignity, he is the incarnation of propriety.

The stresses to which the honours system has been subjected in recent years must have caused him great distress but he is far too proper a civil servant to talk about it. His retirement at 70 has nothing to do with the ailments and excursions stimulated by the honours lists associated with Sir Harold Wilson.

"One of my principal jobs has been the protection of the system", he says. "The pleasures are very great. It's fascinating in itself. You see so much of the history of people in every walk of life."

Sir Stuart waxes eloquent about the beauty and uniqueness of the British honours system. He is a confirmed monarchist, so the spontaneity of the jubilee celebrations provides the perfect backdrop for his departure. He is succeeded by Mr Richard Sharp, an under-secretary at the Treasury.

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The stresses to which the honours system has been subjected in recent years

HOME NEWS

Peers by succession would not sit in altered House of Lords

By David Wood

Political Editor

Reform of the House of Lords to consist of about 250 selected life peers or peers of first creation has been proposed by a working party of Labour peers.

Peers by succession would cease to have a right to a seat, although they would be eligible for nomination for life peerages. Law Lords would keep their places, but the episcopal bench would be reduced from 26 to 10.

The working party report published today proposes that the 250 working peers, all on salary like MPs in the Commons, would be selected to accord with the balance of parties in the Commons. In that way, it is argued, no one party in opposition would be capable of obstructing the will of the Commons as a matter of course.

It is also proposed that the powers of the Lords should be reduced further to reinforce the dominance of the Government of the day in the Upper House. The Lords' powers to suspend or delay legislation would be reduced to six months from the date of disagreement between the Commons and Lords, except that there would be no change in Lords' powers to prevent an arbitrary government in the Commons extending the duration of a Parliament.

The 12 Labour peers in the working party, under the chairmanship of Lord Chompton, put up a fairly sturdy defence for a bicameral system that during recent years of minority Labour government has come under sharpening attack and increasing threats from members of the Parliamentary Labour Party. There will certainly be a campaign for the abolition of the House of Lords to be included in the next Labour manifesto.

The report claims for the Upper House its efficacy in examining and revising Bills, especially where a guillotine motion has been applied in the Commons; its usefulness as a forum in which non-controversial legislation can be initiated to relieve the burden on the Commons; its work on private Bills, opposed and unopposed; its excellence in scrutinizing the state of legislation originating in the Commons; and the quality of its general debates.

Nevertheless, the working party is well aware of the PLP's present and likely future mood, and goes much further in proposals for Lords' reform than the Labour Government's scheme that emerged after inter-party talks between 1966 and 1968, only to die unmentioned in the Commons.

Some of the Labour proposals would be attractive to many Conservative reformers in the Upper House, including Lord Carrington. He has urged publicly and privately for several years that the House needs re-constitution in terms of membership, although he has not been a vocal proponent of a smaller, non-hereditary House as a defence for the retention of effective powers of surveillance over the Commons and the Executive.

The working party's proposal of a reduction in the world use of nuclear power to six months is less radical than it can be made to look. A Bill defeated in the Upper House may be reintroduced within 12 months of its original second reading in the Commons and it is government's business managers know that in timing the second reading of controversial legislation the veto need not be as long as six months even now.

Although even peers in the working party may doubt whether their reforms are to be regarded as practical politics, one proposal will be welcome to members of the PLP who still feel bitter about Sir Harold Wilson's use of patronage. It is suggested that a list of nominees for creations to the peerage "would be made as required from time to time by a select committee of the House of Commons to be chaired by the Prime Minister". The Prime Minister would make a final selection from the list for recommendation to the Sovereign.

The proposal that the full time working and voting peers should be salaried will be highly controversial, partly on the ground that it would help to make the Upper House a rival to the elected House in terms of careers and status, partly because a ripple of outrage is running through Westminster corridors about the Jewish pay and benefits likely to go to directly elected European MPs.

The nine proposals for reform of the Lords are as follows:

- 1 In a reformed second Chamber peers by succession would cease to have a right to sit but would be eligible for nomination for life peerages.
- 2 Life peers and peers of first creation would continue in membership.
- 3 There would remain room to a reformed House for the law lords and 10 bishops.
- 4 From the reformed House there would be established a body of about 250 voting peers, selected to reflect party balance in the Commons. Each of the parliamentary parties would determine the composition of its own section of the voting peers.
- 5 Non-voting peers would be able to ask questions and make motions and to vote in committee but not to vote on the floor of the House or in any committee for the consideration of legislation.
- 6 A list of nominees for creations to the House of Lords would be made as required by a select committee of the Commons, chaired by the Prime Minister. From this he would make a final selection for recommendation to the Sovereign.
- 7 Voting peers should be paid a salary. Non-voting peers would be able to claim authorized travelling and other expenses incurred in attendance.
- 8 Delay to a Bill resulting from disagreement between the two Houses should be reduced to six months from the date of disagreement. After that period a Bill would, on the passage of a single resolution by the Commons, be presented to the Sovereign. The proposed reduction in Lords' powers would exclude any change in powers in relation to any Bill in the duration of a Parliament.
- 9 The powers of the two Houses on private Bills and all sub-statutory legislation would be changed to enable any decision of the Lords to be overruled by the Commons.

Lord Chompton explained last night that the working party was set up to consider a recommendation of a committee of the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party that the House of Lords should be abolished. He said a copy of the report would be sent to the party's general secretary, Mr. Roy Jenkins, to be taken to the NEC's attention. He added that not many Conservative peers would dissent from proposals to reduce Lords' membership and veto powers.

Mr. P. J. P. Peart, who leads for the Government in the Lords, said the proposals had been submitted to rank-and-file Labour peers and commanded their support.

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Average weekly income of the most prosperous elderly households is £42.70, survey shows

Greatest proportion of old people's money spent on food

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

Even the most affluent old people spend the biggest proportion of their money on food. Among the poorest that proportion is nearly a third, according to Age Concern, the charity founded in 1940 to promote the welfare of elderly people.

That and many other facts about old people's income and expenditure, their numbers and where they live, standards of living, possessions and outlook on life, have been assembled in a document by the organization's research unit through reanalysis of existing data.

The government census and such sources as the Family Expenditure Survey, the National Food Survey and the National Readership Survey,

have been combed for information. Age Concern says it is needed in compact form to provide guidelines for doctors, health visitors, housing managers and others who plan and care for the old, pensioners and the retired.

Mr David Hobman, director of Age Concern England, said that too many myths surrounded the elderly and facts were needed. Everyone in the field had to be informed about the detailed needs of the old.

At mid-1976 there were slightly more than 10,750,000 people aged 60 or over, almost a fifth of the population, the document says. At every point in the age range over 60, there were more men than women. On present official projections the total number of elderly persons will increase by 3 per cent between now and 1986. Between 1976

and 1996 the number of those aged 60 to 74 will decline by almost 700,000, while those aged 75 and over will increase to the same extent.

The findings show that there is a slight tendency for old people to cluster in the inner areas of big cities. There is, however, considerable movement by both young and old. Young parents move out far enough to secure a garden and fresh air; retired people, particularly those in the middle class but increasingly also those in the working class, seek the warmer climate of the South of England. The elderly make up a tenth of the population of East Sussex, for example, while in the commuter belt of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire the figure is under 4 per cent.

On March 31, 1975, of the 7,500,000 people aged over 65, 150,000 were living in institutional homes; slightly more than 100,000 were in local authority homes.

The most prosperous households of elderly people, with either the man or the woman over 65, had an average income of £42.70 weekly, half that of a working household.

Most elderly households depended heavily on social security. For all, it represented at least 45 per cent of total average income.

Although as a group elderly people emerge from the pages of tables and statistics as largely behind materially, surveys indicate that they are less concerned about material things than younger adults.

They get on better with their neighbours than younger people do, care little if they

have no car and get more satisfaction from leisure than younger adults.

A quarter of elderly people suffer "aches and pains" and almost half said that they were taking a drug to relieve pain or sleeplessness, at the time of the survey.

Dr Mark Abrams, former director of the Social Science Research Council survey unit, author of the document, said at a press conference that three quarters of the elderly population led a satisfying life. But a quarter were severely dissatisfied. Their main difficulties were loneliness and uncertainty about what would happen if their health deteriorated seriously.

Prof. J. E. Elderly (Age Concern, 60 Piccadilly Road, Manchester, Surrey, 11).

They get on better with their neighbours than younger people do, care little if they

Four hurt in gas explosions at homes

Four people were injured in gas explosions in homes at St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire, yesterday.

One house was destroyed and another badly damaged after being partly demolished in Albert Street, in the centre of St Albans. Both had been occupied, but two of the three people slightly injured, were Eastern Gas representatives investigating reports of a leak.

Eastern Gas said later that while the engineers searched for a leak a lorry drove past, and a spark might have caused the explosion.

Mr Aubrey Wren, aged 51, of Hamilton Road, Long Eaton, was taken to hospital with serious injuries after his kitchen had been demolished by an explosion.

Building chief convicted of corruption

Thomas Griffiths, aged 59, director of building for South Wales Police Authority, was found guilty on Tuesday night of corruptly receiving payment towards a holiday from a quantity surveyor.

Mr Griffiths, of Merthyr Tydfid, was fined £500 and ordered to pay £500 costs at Cardiff Crown Court for receiving the sum as an inducement to overlook a building contract for the police authority.

Peter Wynnham Cosh, aged 34, the surveyor of Little Acre, Merthyr Tydfid, was found guilty of corruptly paying £75 towards the Jersey holiday for Mr Griffiths in 1973. He was fined £75 and ordered to pay £750 costs.

The jury reached majority verdicts of 10 to 2. The two men, who had pleaded not guilty to all the charges, were each acquitted of two further offences of alleged corruption by unanimous verdicts.

Union rebukes a minister over snub to Princess

From Our Correspondent
Spoke-on-Trent

Mr Golding, a junior minister at the Department of Employment, who boycotted the royal wedding of a job centre in his constituency, has been rebuked by members of his union.

Sixty Post Office workers at Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, sent a letter to Mr Golding, a member of the Union of Post Office Workers, condemning the criticism of the Prince of Wales and Princess Margaret to open the Centre. A representative of the postmen said: "Most people would much rather see a member of the Royal Family than a politician."

Mr Golding said of the Princess Margaret: "The world of work and is unconcerned with the fight against unemployment."

Woman's hunger strike

Mrs Eileen Munro, aged 44 of Porthlethen, Bristol, went on hunger strike yesterday as she began a prison sentence of 10 months at Farnborough remand centre for failing to pay tax arrears of £185.



The Duchess of Norfolk, right, with Father Denis Murphy and Mrs Margaret Ferguson, floral adviser to the festival.

Woman in the news: Flowers of the world for duchess Born to blush in public for a good cause

By Philip Howard

In the most self-effacing way possible, the Duchess of Norfolk is this morning a woman in the news. As president of the International Festival of Flowers and Music in Westminster Cathedral, in honour of the silver jubilee and the cathedral appeal, she is coordinating the largest mass migration of plant life since Burnham Wood removed to Dunsunne.

India has flown in flowers from the Himalayas and a florist from Bombay, Japan has sent experts in the peaceful art of Ikebana, who will give demonstrations during the festival. Indonesia has commissioned the London School of Floristry to create a Garuda eagle (the national emblem) in flowers. That has caused some excitement at the school where nobody was quite certain what the eagle in question looks like, either in feathers or flowers.

Altogether, 64 countries, from Argentina to Yemen, are taking part; many of them fly-

ing in their own flowers and floral arrangements.

The duchess, whose husband has been Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England since 1975, and was formerly director of service intelligence as the Ministry of Defence, is coordinating all the flowers and flower people (not the least temperamental of people to coordinate). Her overall professional floral adviser is Mrs Margaret Ferguson.

The duchess herself has arranged and organized an avenue of evergreen trees and plants that has turned the pavement leading up to the great west door of the cathedral into a pastoral scene as it is possible in the dusty heart of Westminster.

Yesterday her arms full of roses, her ears full of cries for help, and with press photographers and reporters getting in her head, she said: "Unfortunately we have chosen rather a tricky day for the arranging: the big Catholic feast day of St Peter and St Paul. So we have regular troops of worshippers galloping in and out through

our 50 arrangers, who include wives of ambassadors and high commissioners as well as the top florists from the United Kingdom and overseas.

Also, Royal Salute, Mattock's Jubilee rose, has failed to come up to scratch because of the appalling weather. We were to have 16,000 of them, so they have had to think of something else to fill the gap."

The festival opens today and runs until Sunday, with concerts of widely different sorts of music every evening. The Duchess of Norfolk says: "If we had tried to do this in any other year we should not have found such tremendous enthusiasm. Foreign and Commonwealth countries are using the festival to express their admiration for the queen on her silver jubilee with flowers. Do not write anything about me; write about the festival."

The duchess is prepared, in a good cause, to become a woman in the news for the day. But tomorrow she will go back to being a very private lady.

Nuclear plant 'would last for 50 years'

From Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Whitehaven

The validity of the proposals of British Nuclear Fuels to build a new nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Windscale, Cumbria, was challenged for the first time on strictly planning grounds on the eleventh day of the public inquiry.

Mr George Dobry, QC, representing the Isle of Man Government, maintained that the absence of such details as the size of buildings, heights of chimneys, the relationship of the new structure to adjacent land, and the visual impact on the environment was among issues that the planning application defective in law.

He reassured Mr Justice Parker, the inspector of the tribunal, that he was not raising a technical device merely in order to obstruct the inquiry.

Mr Dobry argued that the proposal to build a new type of oxide fuel reprocessing plant would give Windscale a new lease of life over the next fifty years or more. He said the reprocessing plant was estimated to cost £100 million and would be financed by the present generation of nuclear power stations, should be confined to providing that service.

Mr Arthur Scott, company secretary and director of adjacent Leadgate Nuclear Fuels, with responsibility for land, licensing and industrial relations legislation, told the inquiry that the lifetime of the planned 650,000 oxide fuel reprocessing plant was estimated at about 10 years. He explained the difficulties of providing the details requested about a plant that was not yet designed.

Agreeing that the possibility of building two reprocessing plants had been discussed up to a year ago, he said a second plant would probably not be at Windscale, because it would be difficult to accommodate it within the existing boundaries of the site.

Another disadvantage of the Windscale site cited by Mr Dobry was the unfavourable currents of the Irish Sea for waste discharge, shown by the accumulation of transuranics (heavy, long-lived radioactive elements in liquid effluent like americium and plutonium) in the sediments of the Raven-glass estuary.

Mr Scott said the new project might have been approached in a different way if a green field site was being developed. The present plans did not consider so much the disadvantages of the site as the advantages of developing somewhere else.

Government 'wants to defeat abortion measure'

The Government wants to defeat a private measure aimed at tightening the law on abortion which is now going through Parliament, but has not got the support of a majority of MPs, a Conservative backbencher said yesterday.

He was addressing the Commons Committee on the Abortion (Amendment) Bill.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Conservative MP for Orpington, accused Mr Moyle, Minister of State for Health and Social Security, of filibustering in a speech to the committee.

Mr Moyle denied the accusation. "The Government has a positive attitude, and that attitude is one of neutrality," he said.

The Bill, which is sponsored by Mr William Benyon (Buckingham, C), seeks to tighten administrative procedures and set a reduced time limit for abortions of up to the twentieth week of pregnancy. Under the 1967 Act abortion is legal up to the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy.

Yesterday's sitting was taken up with a heated discussion on future meetings of the committee. Unless this stage is completed before July 15, the Bill has little chance of becoming law, because of the lack of time for the remaining stages to be considered in the Chamber of the Commons.

Mr Benyon succeeded, after a series of divisions, in getting the committee to agree to meet in future on three mornings a week, with the vote being taken every afternoon. Voting was seven to four. Some MPs believe that that may mean the committee will sit for more than 60 hours a week.

Protests by the Bill's supporters yesterday came after Mr Moyle had explained the effect prolonged sittings would have on his duties in his department.

The Bill was a private member's Bill and as such should be considered entirely by private members, he said. The Government would not wish either to expand the period available for debate or to restrict it.

Collectors of bottles at tip cleared of theft

Two bottle collectors were acquitted at York Crown Court yesterday of stealing old containers they found on a former council tip at Ravenscar, near Scarborough. They had been caught digging at nearby middens at the tip, which is now part of Mr Geoffrey White's farm.

The court was told that up until 60 years ago trash-loads of Scarborough's rubbish were dumped on the site. Over the past month it had been plundered by collectors seeking valuable old lemons and beer bottles, earthenware jars and pots.

Mr White said he was fed up with the treasure seekers, particularly as their excavations had created dangers for his sheep.

William Harrison, aged 41, of Woodhouse Road, Gillingham, Cleveland, and Peter Head, aged 20, a market trader, of Dalby Close, Redcar, Cleveland, both denied the theft of old containers valued at £17.50. They had said that they did not realize the site was privately owned.

Both were awarded costs out of central funds.

Firemen go back

An unofficial strike by 300 Merseyside firemen, which immobilized 13 of the county's 32 stations and reduced the capacity of the others by a quarter ended yesterday.

New rules to cut juvenile remands to adult prisons

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

An important step towards fulfilling the Government's pledge to end remands of children aged 14 to 17 to adult prisons was taken yesterday with the announcement by Mr Rees, Home Secretary, of new rules governing the use of certificates of unfitness.

The rules, fore-shadowed in a White Paper last month, will take effect from August 1 and are expected markedly to reduce the number of remands of juveniles to prison, now about four thousand a year. The total

number of remands has risen by about a third in the past 18 months since the Commons expenditure committee report on the workings of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, demanded an immediate end to all such remands.

The rules will be outlined in a circular to be sent to courts, the police and local authorities. They specify that a certificate of unfitness, which must be issued before any juvenile can be sent to an adult penal establishment, can be given only when one or more of three conditions are satisfied.

First, the juvenile must be charged with an offence punishable in the case of an adult by a sentence of 14 years or more, such as murder, manslaughter, arson or rape. The second condition is that the juvenile is charged with an offence of violence, or has been found guilty of a violent offence before.

The third condition is that the young person has previously been seriously absconded from or seriously disrupted the running of a community home.

The first two conditions will result in certificates of unfitness being issued only on strict criteria. If the court is remanding the young person for the first time, it will be able to issue a certificate only if it has not had time to obtain a written

report from the local authority on the availability of places in community homes, or if it is satisfied on the basis of such a report that there is no accommodation where the child can be placed at no risk to himself or others.

Where absconders or disruptive children are concerned, the court must be satisfied on the basis of a written report that there is no suitable accommodation available before a certificate of unfitness can be issued.

On March 31, last year, 19 boys were in adult prisons and 350 in adult remand centres; 10 girls were in prison and 11 in adult remand centres.

Computers could cut losses by bus companies, unit says

By Michael Baily

Transport Correspondent

The national subsidies suggested in Monday's White Paper on transport would be largely unnecessary if bus companies used computers to operate their vehicles more efficiently, according to studies carried out by the White Paper.

The White Paper proposes to restore a cut of £75m in bus subsidies by 1980, keeping them at the present level of £150m a year, because otherwise it is thought the industry might collapse.

But work carried out by the Operational Research Unit at Leeds over the past 10 years suggests that savings of £20m a year could be made by re-scheduling buses to reduce repositioning journeys, quite apart from other measures.

The Leeds unit has carried out experimental work for bus operators in Manchester, Hull, Merseyside, and South and West Yorkshire, making savings of 5 per cent and in one case of 25 per cent in operating costs.

Mr Anthony Wren, who heads the unit, estimates that with the industry's annual turnover of about £700m, savings of £20m

or 3 per cent are easily achievable, and savings of £35m £50m probably manageable with computer programmes developed at the university.

The main savings arise through computer programmes which by matching up routes get more working time from a fewer, less wasteful, potential journeys from each vehicle.

In a large operation it is not uncommon for a bus to travel empty for 10 to 15 minutes before it is loaded with passengers. Mr Wren says:

"This is simply because different schedules are used, with passengers terminal points no one man can carry it all in his head. I there are many one-way flows from schools and factories, instance—that can be spotted if the picture is seen as a whole."

Operational research in computers can also reduce in size while producing much the same output. Mr Wren says: "One early study by the Leeds unit reduced a fleet from 40 to 35 vehicles. Another study of £70,000 a year fee to the university of £800

Escort Popular adapted for disabled

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Ford today announces a new Escort 1.3 Popcar for the disabled driver. It is offered at a special discount price of £1,914, a reduction of £421.

The car has automatic transmission, an extended seat with a laminated windshield, a specially adapted door with a heated rear window, and a hand-operated accelerator.

"Owners will have priority from Ford dealers on service and repairs."

Council and strike teachers hope to meet minister

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

Oxfordshire

Both sides involved in the Oxfordshire teachers' strike are hoping to meet Miss Jackson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, early next week in an attempt to find a solution to the dispute, which has closed 30 schools and partly closed 30 others.

Miss Jackson said in the Commons on Tuesday that although the dispute was a matter between the county council and the National Union of Teachers she would be willing "to see people from Oxford at any time if they want to come to the department."

County Council some press reports yesterday, Miss Jackson did not suggest that the Government had or would intervene in the dispute, nor did she offer to hold talks with both sides.

The NUT, however, was quick to respond to what it had believed to be an offer from the minister for a meeting under

her auspices. It told the department that it was prepared to see her, but no meeting is likely until next week.

Brigadier Roger Streetfield, chairman of Oxfordshire Education Committee, said yesterday that he would be "more than happy" to have talks with Miss Jackson.

The strike is in protest against the county council's spending cuts which entail the loss of 344 full-time teaching posts.

The strike is expected to end shortly before the end of term, on July 15, whether or not a solution has been achieved by then: the teachers would stand to lose their summer holiday pay if they were still on strike at the end of term.

Schoolgirl dies

Karen Porter, aged 11, of Albany Village, Washington, Tyne and Wear, died yesterday after running into the gates of her school.

'Copper thieves may have caused Tube failure'

Thefts of copper lighting cable probably caused the electrical fusing that led to thousands of passengers being trapped underground in acid smoke at Finsbury Park and Arsenal Underground stations last year. That is the conclusion of a government inquiry into the incident. Improvements in London Transport's emergency procedure are recommended.

Examination showed that a length of insulated copper neutral cable had been removed from beneath an Arsenal platform. That had bared some of the conductor in one cable and connected it to another, causing a short. There had been 46 similar reported thefts at the station since 1971.

Although extensive damage made a search at Finsbury Park impossible, careful tests showed that the theft was the most likely explanation for the fusing. Major C. F. Rose, the inspector, says in his report published yesterday.

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By Pat Healy
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The rules, fore-shadowed in a White Paper last month, will take effect from August 1 and are expected markedly to reduce the number of remands of juveniles to prison, now about four thousand a year. The total

number of remands has risen by about a third in the past 18 months since the Commons expenditure committee report on the workings of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, demanded an immediate end to all such remands.

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T EUROPE

Party accord involves
Italian Communists
Government policy

During last night's meeting again his party's demand for a broadly-based government of "democratic unity", with themselves as members. Not unexpectedly, he was once again refused. But he said in a statement that this remained the party's objective and they would make sure their supporters were aware of it.

It is generally agreed that Signor Giulio Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic administration will continue in office for the time being.

One of the trickiest problems still outstanding is over the form of recognition to be given to the new agreement and what guarantees should be made for its implementation.

Signor Berlinguer is reported to want it signed by all parties but the Liberals refused to sign the same sheet of paper as the Communists. Another suggestion was for a parliamentary motion. But it was objected how could Parliament be asked to endorse a motion which contained differences of opinion?

Signor Andreotti, who has hitherto remained outside the negotiations, intervened cautiously from the sidelines by suggesting thoroughly consultations with the Communists and Socialists by members of the parties involved.

The agreement culminated three months of slow and difficult negotiations. The process was set in motion when the Communists and Socialists declared that they were no longer prepared to support the Government by abstaining in Parliament without having a say in official policies.

Alan leader meets
King Juan Carlos

That call, coming exactly 48 hours after the first anonymous one in which a male voice claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of the mysterious terrorist organization which earlier this year kidnapped two key members of the Franco establishment, contradicted the first message.

The explosions caused damage estimated at about £171,000 but no injuries, as the bombs went off early on Sunday morning, the only day of the week on which the newspaper does not publish.

Editorial staff at the newspaper suspect right-wing extremists in view of the rash of threats which they received over the past few weeks from rightists, annoyed at the newspaper's often flippant treatment of them, which are sacred to diehard Francoists.

Señor Miguel Angel Aguilar, the editor-in-chief, was being sued for defamation by a former Minister Señor José Antonio Giron, as a result of a magazine article in which Señor Aguilar reviewed Señor Giron's highly profitable land dealings on the Costa del Sol.

The Madrid provincial court yesterday upheld the politician's claim and ordered the journalist to pay £427 in damages, a fine of £214 and court costs.

Another *Diario 16* journalist is expected soon to begin serving a 20-day prison sentence imposed by a court martial in Bilbao for "disrespect to the armed forces".

Herring ban
extended
by Britain

The British Government has told the EEC's Council of Ministers it will impose a ban on herring fishing within Britain's 200-mile limit in the North Sea for the rest of the year.

Mr Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, told the Commons yesterday that the Government was in touch with the Commission on continuing the present ban when it expires at the end of the month, in view of the failure of EEC ministers to come to an agreement acceptable to Britain.

The ban was being imposed under the terms of the Hague agreement and there was a legal obligation on Britain's EEC partners to abide by it, he said.

Mr Donald Stewart, Scottish Nationalist MP for Western Isles, said last night: "Information has been passed to me from a reliable source that the whole of the Dundee herring fleet will sail in a few days for the North Sea and Scottish fishing grounds."

"Their intention to do so will probably have been communicated to the Danes and the Germans, so that the attack on the fish stocks will see them cleaned within a week."

"It is an outrage that alleged EEC partners should be destroying our herring stocks in this way. Danish industrial fishing is regarded with abhorrence and anger in Scottish ports."

Parliamentary report, page 8

Hijacker in joy ride

June 29.—Police officers for an armed hijacker on the red 40-seater "special journey" ordered yesterday

EEC summit notebook

Get-together in Downing Street
without a crucial issue in sight

By Roger Berthoud

The London summit season is drawing to a rather weak close. The meeting of EEC heads of government, which began yesterday with luncheon at 10, Downing Street and ends today, promises to be the least dramatic of the four summits over which Mr Callaghan has benignly presided.

The economic and NATO summits in May were not able to bring President Carter's debut abroad. The Commonwealth conference was of high human interest, offering the spectacle of 33 disparate leaders of that English-speaking family attacking such human problems as racism, oppression and starvation—even if with no hope of solving them.

After these, the EEC summit seems a rather inbred, hot house affair, helpless in the face of the scourges of unemployment and inflation, and all too often seeming to create and exacerbate problems through its own existence.

This does not mean there was no tension at the Government's press centre off St James's yesterday. "What's the latest news?" journalists asked anxiously. They were of course referring to Wimbledon, which was being shown on three colour television sets.

When President Giscard d'Estaing suggested, in 1974, that these meetings should be institutionalized he saw them as an informal meeting point for a free exchange of views; as a last court of appeal to resolve recalcitrant problems;

and as a source of collective pronouncements on such issues as the Middle East.

It is probably the human contact which is most valuable. Any prime minister tends to think his domestic problems are particularly acute. Such meetings are a reminder of the domestic factors which help shape each member state's attitude to the EEC and international issues.

One of Mr Callaghan's was embodied by some 30 anti-marketisers, who waved banners outside Downing Street at lunchtime yesterday.

As it happens, the present meeting is remarkable not just because the European Community is not in a state of crisis and has no really crucial issue to resolve; it is also one of those rare occasions when no member state is in a serious political crisis.

Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch Prime Minister, has recently been confirmed in office, and is in buoyant form. So has Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, though he has his worries over opposition from within his new coalition. Mr Anker Jørgensen, the Danish Prime Minister, had the happy look yesterday of a politician whose popularity is rising.

The same may not be true of Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, but he is safe until next year's Land elections. The word from the German camp yesterday was that his rift with President Carter over the human rights issue was far from bridged.

German correspondents were

EEC chiefs
stalled on
nuclear site

Continued from page 1

comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the conflict."

Other subjects discussed by the heads of government included the siting of the EEC's ambitious thermonuclear fusion project, the situation in Africa, East-West relations, economic problems, and the implications of the further enlargement of the Community.

No decision was reached on the question of the site for the fusion project which has been referred for further discussion to foreign ministers. The apparent failure to break the 18-month deadlock on this issue could well mean the final abandonment of the project.

The main obstacle to agreement is competition between the West Germans and the British to provide the site for the fusion project known as the Joint European Torus (JET).

Britain considers that the Culham laboratory near Oxford is technically the best qualified for the job, while the Germans have been equally insistent in urging the claim of the Garching research centre, near Munich.

Reports that Herr Schmidt had made a link between the JET question and a quite different dispute over the level of British contributions to the EEC budget could not be immediately confirmed. But it seemed unlikely that Mr Callaghan would be prepared to consider a trade-off of this kind.

Economic problems, focusing on the themes of growth, inflation and unemployment, were also reviewed.

Need for a Palestinian 'homeland'

Text of EEC statement
on Middle East

The following is the text of the statement on the Middle East issued after the meeting of EEC heads of government in London yesterday:

At the present crucial stage in the Middle East, the Nine welcome all efforts made to bring to an end the tragic conflict there.

They emphasize the crucial interest which they see in early and successful negotiations towards a just and lasting peace. They call on all the parties concerned to agree urgently to participate in such negotiations in a constructive and realistic spirit; at this juncture, in particular, all parties should refrain from statements or policies which could constitute an obstacle to the pursuit of peace.

2 The Nine set out on many occasions in the past, for example, in their statements of November 6, 1973, September 28, 1976, and December 7, 1976, their view that a peace settlement should be based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 238, and on:

(i) The inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;

(ii) The need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967;

(iii) respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries.

(iv) recognition that in the establishment of a just and last-

ing peace account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

It remains their firm view that all these aspects must be taken as a whole.

3 The Nine have affirmed their belief that a solution to the conflict in the Middle East will be possible only if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to have effective expression to its national identity is translated into action, which would take into account the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people.

They consider that the representative of the parties to the conflict, including the Palestinian people, must participate in the negotiations in an appropriate manner to be accorded a legitimate position between all the parties concerned.

In the context of an overall settlement, Israel must be ready to recognize the legitimate rights of the Arab side must be ready to recognize the right of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries.

It is not through the acquisition of territory by force that the security of the states of the region can be assured, but it must be based on commitments to peace, exchanged between all the parties concerned with a view to establishing a truly peaceful solution.

4 The Nine believe that the peace negotiations must be resumed urgently, with the aim of achieving and implementing a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the conflict. They remain ready to contribute to the extent the parties wish in finding a settlement and in putting it into effect. They are also ready to consider participating in guarantees in the framework of the United Nations.

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OVERSEAS

New opposition party launched by South African whites given little chance of political survival

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, June 29

South Africa's new white centre party, a merger of the once great United Party and the puny Democratic Party, which has not a single seat in Parliament, was launched here today amid distinct signs that it may not survive long enough to become the official opposition when Parliament resumes.

Even as Sir de Villiers Graaff, the United Party leader, was presiding over the last rites of his party at a Johannesburg ice rink last night, six more of its MPs resigned to further the process of self-immolation that has been killing off the party steadily for the past 20 years.

Mr Japie Basson, the leader of the group, said that, although he and his supporters had no intention of joining any existing political party they would cooperate with the anti-apartheid Progressive-Refarm Party to form a new, verligte (enlightened) opposition.

Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the Progressive Refarm Party, promised to work for a "unified verligte opposition" and declared that a committee would be appointed within a few days to start negotiations with the Basson group.

As things stand, the United Party and Democratic Party coalition called the New Republic Party, has 24 seats in Parliament and the Progressive-Refarm Party 12, excluding the six in the Basson group.

Another six United Party rebels who broke away recently to form a new South African Party on the right of the existing opposition groupings, make up the rest of the Opposition.

The National Party has 123 seats. The New Republic Party is

likely to lose a further seat to the Progressive Refarm Party in a pending by-election in Johannesburg, which means the PRP will need to control only six more to take over as the official parliamentary opposition.

Mr Theo Gerdener, leader of the Democratic Party and former Interior Minister in the Nationalist Government, fell heavily on the ice today at the congress here and had to be helped to his feet by his new United Party colleagues before he was able to tell 700 delegates: "We are going to submit to the world outside a political system where there will be no apartheid, no discrimination and no domination at all."

The motto of the New Republic Party would be: "Self rule for all," he said. It appeared the vast majority of homeland blacks favoured self-rule and the party would appoint a commission of inquiry to find out what the nine million non-homeland blacks wanted.

The Johannesburg Star, formerly a staunch supporter of the United Party and of Sir de Villiers Graaff, said in a leading article: Sir de Villiers finds himself in partnership with Mr Theo Gerdener, leader of a raggle-taggle group which cannot be properly described as a party.

"Mr Gerdener is so confused in his political thinking that he talks seriously of a 'confederal federal system', a political concept which exists only in his own mind. His terminology and stated objectives, as far as they can be comprehended, sound uncomfortably like apartheid ideology cloaked in more euphemistic terms."

The Star forecast that the New Republic Party was "likely

to waste away, its disheartened supporters drifting to the Nationalists or the PRP, leaving behind a group of disappointed politicians who meant well but missed their moment."

Sir de Villiers, who is leaving the leadership, told the congress: "What is needed is a party in the middle of the political spectrum, when that spectrum includes white, black and brown, so that moderate whites can talk to moderate blacks, while there are still moderate blacks in the interests of a peaceful solution."

The new party's aims included elimination of discrimination and domination, the protection of group identity, joint decision-making on matters of common interest, and the working out of a new constitution in consultation with all communities.

The leader of the new party has not been named so far, but is expected to be Mr Radclyffe Gubbins, a leader of the United Party and one of its most forceful parliamentarians. He has been the architect of schemes, such as Natal's multi-racial consultative council and its plans for a multi-racial metropolitan council for greater Durban.

A wealthy sugar farmer, he would be the first English-speaking leader of the Opposition since Sir Thomas Smuts left office from 1912 to 1921.

More important, he has already indicated that he is prepared to reopen the negotiations with the Progressive Refarm Party which Sir de Villiers Graaff started earlier this year. His new party, he said, should be formed as "another step on the road to a broader opposition, including other parties as well."

Flags lowered for the last time on the Dulles concept of an eastern Nato

Seato fades into cold war history without firing a shot

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, June 29

Without firing a shot in anger the South-East Asian Treaty (Seato) Organization, the once proud military bulwark against communism in Asia, will fade into history tomorrow, unheralded and almost unnoticed.

There will be no ceremony to mark the demise of the military alliance when the flags of its six remaining members, the United States, Britain, the Philippines, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand, are lowered from the organization's deserted headquarters in Bangkok for the last time tomorrow.

Illustrating the conflicting objectives which have bedeviled Seato during its 22 years of existence, the flags of two founding members, Pakistan and France, have not been raised over the building for years. Pakistan, frustrated by Seato's refusal to intervene against India during the Bangladesh conflict, withdrew from the alliance in 1973. France ceased participating in military activities in 1967 and withdrew its financial support in 1974.

Inspired by the American cold war writer, John Foster Dulles, Seato was created under the Manila pact of September 8, 1954, nearly four months after the fall of Dien Bien Phu.

The original treaty declared that the eight founding members would cooperate within Seato to settle disputes by peaceful means, provide the area with economic development and establish a collective defence agreement against aggression. In executing the provisions of the treaty the United States stipulated that intervention against aggression and armed attack should only apply to communist aggression.

The treaty also designated Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam as areas for defence against aggression. In the ensuing years the eight-party alliance conducted a number of joint military exercises in South-East Asia but the organization was never put to the test. Nor did it ever go to war. Essentially, Seato was founded because of the Korean war, based on the Korean war, which the Chinese would not honor the Geneva agreement after the fall of Dien Bien Phu.

In the early 1970s Seato had all but dropped its military role, replacing it with economic development projects, health service schemes and advice on counter-insurgency. In September, 1974, military planning for defence against external aggression was suspended. With the fall of Saigon, Laos and Cambodia in 1975, Seato was forced to reassess its role once more, with radical results.

The original aim—set out during the cold war in Asia—of containing China, had become obsolete. The United States had opened up a dialogue with Peking and many of Asia's conservative governments, including Thailand and the Philippines, had established flexible relations with China.

Hammering one of the last nails into the coffin, President Marcos of the Philippines and Mr. Kukulir Pramoi, the former Prime Minister of Thailand, met in Manila in July, 1975, and declared that while the basic Manila pact of 1954 should remain in effect, the organization, Mr. Dulles's concept of an eastern Nato, "should be phased out in

accord with the new realities in south-east Asia."

That declaration by the organization's two remaining allies in Asia had a profound impact when the Seato Council met in New York in September two years ago and decided that the alliance should be phased out, "in spite of its useful contribution towards stability in the area."

The flags will be lowered for the last time tomorrow in Bangkok when Mr. Sunthorn Hongladarom, the Thai Secretary-General of Seato, vacates his empty headquarters. The equipment has been sold to the public and the building has been purchased by the Thai Government. Mr. Dulles's dream dies and many concerned Asians are asking what is to replace it.

Instead of the threat of external aggression, the five members of the new, realistic economic and social alliance of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean)—Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines—are now more concerned with the problem of domestic insurgency.

Perhaps Seato's vague successor might take some shape when the five leaders of Asean meet in Kuala Lumpur in August to review economic and political developments in the area. Although all five leaders of the alliance claim that Asean is primarily charged with economic and social matters, there is little doubt that the question of the security of South-East Asia will be a major topic during the coming summit meeting of the five in Kuala Lumpur.

Sir Peter recalls his three years as envoy to three presidents

From Fred Emery
Washington, June 29

To have been accredited to three Presidents in three years is, as a result of Watergate and the last election, Sir Peter Ramsbotham's rather unusual feat as Ambassador in Washington.

He leaves on Saturday to take up his post as British ambassador to the United States. He had a foreboding briefing with British correspondents with whom he has also managed the unusual feat of sustaining cordial relations.

He reflected today that he had not seen Mr. Nixon more than three times. Mr. Ford he saw rather quickly. Of Mr. Carter he noted his warmth for Britain "which goes beyond sentimentality". He could not explain it other than saying that Mr. Carter, like many others met on his own travels through South America, seemed to have a genuine interest in the old country.

He thought, however, that any trace of this Anglo-American special relationship could be as much hindrance as help—as such in, for instance, tough trade negotiations where each member of the American team has a special consideration by the other.

Sir Peter also boldly commented on Mrs. Anne Arundel, the former American Ambassador to Britain, that she must one day be President. Of all the American ladies he did not think he had met another "who I could see in the White House".

Sir Peter is rather proud of predicting Mr. Carter's success. It is known that he was the first ambassador to dine with Mr. Carter when he was a candidate; later the first to meet him as President. Less known is the fact that in the crucial Ford primary year, when everyone predicted that Mr. Wallace would be the winner, Sir Peter was a rare bird indeed. He came back and told—well before the vote and before any primary victories—that the informed elite in Dallas was that Mr. Carter would upset Mr. Wallace.

In the wake of the Downing Street nastiness last month over Sir Peter's ways here, it is not surprising that his greatest disappointment is the manner of his replacement. He has been replaced by the Administrator of a Washington society bent on showing Mr. Callaghan that he was sorely mistaken to try having the Ramsbothams "mess with".

Privately, Sir Peter is known to be most nettled with published suggestions that while he was good at "broad brush" work, he was not so hot on political detail. The record is the reverse, if anything. Certainly his knowledge and sureness in keeping a sure track of all the borrowing and underpinning in the Washington political woodwork have been well remarked, and useful to Britain.

On the role of ambassador, he said he had spent most of his time defending Britain, ask-

ing that Americans should "give us the benefit of the doubt". Not until after the 1975 referendum on EEC had Sir Peter really got a grip on himself and rampant inflation. It had been difficult for him to convey the big investors that "we were credible and credit worthy".

He thought that Mr. Peter Jay could have an easier time in this regard and could now pursue getting credit for what Britain had done to pull itself up again. Sir Peter noted how soon things had seemed to come right after completion of the substantial Monetary Fund loans and arrangements last winter—a process which he described as the most "disconcerting" of his time here.

He wanted it clear, too, that 80 per cent of his time had been spent running the Rolls-Royce machine of the embassy staff and the network of consulates-general throughout the country. General were the days when the ambassador personally could proceed to do it all. "His old machine to be embellished and run like a clockwork, like a conductor of a great orchestra," Sir Peter said.

Sir Peter has managed most situations with aplomb. The day he arrived here in 1974 the Heath Government lost the election and the correspondent of The Guardian asked him if he had any regrets. He replied: "I resigned puzzlement at the question, and outlasted that assumption by three years and four months."

Congress gives go-ahead for B1 bomber

Washington, June 29.—Congress has given the go-ahead for the development of the B1 super-bomber, which would be the most expensive weapons system in history, even though the Pentagon argued that it was already obsolete.

Government sources here said yesterday that the Soviet Union has already begun work on a new fighter designed to intercept the B1. But Congressmen backing the B1 said it could be modernized for service well into the next century against Soviet air defence innovations.

A final decision on B1 development now rests with President Carter, who during his election campaign described it as a wasteful aircraft.

The Pentagon has already spent \$4,000m (£2,300m) on the project and House of Representatives last night rejected by 243 votes to 178, an amendment cutting off a further \$1,500m in funds for the aircraft.

They also said they did not think news of the Soviet development would be a setback to Carter's decision on the B1, which he was to announce tomorrow.

'Summary justice' fear in trial of dissidents

Paris, June 29.—Two Soviet dissidents, members of the Helsinki monitoring committee, have gone on trial in conditions of near-secrecy somewhere in the Ukraine, dissident exiles said here today.

Mr. Leonid Plyushch, a mathematician, and Mr. Vadim Delaunay, a poet, said they were reprimanded by friends in the Soviet Union last night and told that the trial began yesterday. They added that friends and relatives, including the wife of one defendant and his mother, had been barred from the court. They identified the accused as Mr. Oleg Tikh and Mr. Mykola Rudenko.

Mr. Plyushch and Mr. Delaunay said they did not know exactly where the trial was taking place, but thought it was near Donetsk. They feared "summary justice" would be meted out.

The authorities, they added, had "only a small step" to take to restore the Stalin-era practice of trying dissidents in secret without defence lawyers—Agence France-Presse.

Richard Davy writes: Exceptional secrecy appears to surround the Ukrainian trials, and the distance from Moscow adds to the difficulty of getting full information.

Two other members of the Helsinki group, Mr. Oleg Tikh and Mr. Mykola Rudenko, are also being tried.

Rangoon mass arrest

Rangoon, June 29.—More than 7,000 people have been arrested in a roundup of suspected pickpockets and other criminals in the Rangoon area, according to police.

Strike closes all Delhi newspapers

Delhi, June 29.—All Delhi's daily newspapers were closed today by a one-day strike in support of workers on the Indian Express, which has not published for the past two weeks.

Eight English-language, three Hindi and two Urdu dailies were involved.

Some 500 staff members of the Delhi office of the Indian Express and Financial Express have been on strike since June 16 demanding payment of interim pay increases awarded in April.

The newspaper announced last week that it was closing down the Delhi editions of the two newspapers from September 23. Since then, employees of the Indian Express group have gone on strike in other cities—Reuters.

As long as Turkey insists on treating us like the chiefs of a defeated army, we should refuse to talk. Turkey does not negotiate, she dictates. If we refuse to talk, she will be in an impossible situation to come to terms or use force."

He did not see that any purpose would be served by a meeting between the Greek and Turkish Prime Ministers, unless there was a change in Turkish attitudes. "The only man in Turkey who can order the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from Cyprus today is Mr. Ecevit, who sent them there in the first place. Why does he not do that? It would be a good start."

The Greek islands in the eastern Aegean have been fortified because of a "repeated" threatening and provocative statements" by Turkish leaders. "Why should Turkey maintain 120 landing craft opposite those islands? Why should she set up an army corps for the Aegean area, if

Chad and Libya clash at OAU meeting

Libreville, June 29.—Chad and Libya clashed sharply today at the ministerial meeting here of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) over Chad allegations that Libya has occupied an important region in northern Chad.

The clash followed Chad's first official complaint lodged with an international body about the alleged incursions. The question is round Azoum where, according to some reports, there are uranium deposits.

Mr. Wadal Abdelkader Kammougue, the Chad Foreign Minister, told the meeting that there had been fighting between Chad and Libyan troops in recent weeks in the northern Chad area of Barkan, Ennedi and Tibesti provinces.

He also said that Libya of having armed and aided Chad rebels who operate in this northern region. Libya's aim, he said, was to set up a puppet state from among local Touareg tribesmen.

This puppet state, Mr. Kammougue said, would extend to parts of Algeria and Niger (both areas are shown in recently published Libyan maps as being Libyan territory). The

Touareg state could thus provide Libya with the chance of harvesting the natural riches of the region.

Meanwhile, Algeria once again found itself in conflict with its adversaries in the western Sahara dispute, Morocco and Mauritania, but this time in a debate over the mercenary problem in Africa.

The question of the security of South-East Asia will be a major topic during the coming summit meeting of the five in Kuala Lumpur.

The final definition accepted by the OAU foreign ministers saw a mercenary as any person who in a conflict, recruited either within a country or outside to fight in an armed conflict; who in fact takes part in hostilities for personal profit promised by one of the parties in a conflict; and who is not a national of either country involved in the hostilities nor a resident of territory controlled by one of the parties.

Britain denies seizing arms for Guatemala

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain yesterday denied responsibility for the detention in Barbados an independent member of the Communist Party, an aircraft loaded with 26 tonnes of ammunition destined for Guatemala.

Guatemala had described the action as "a clear British provocation by way of its colony Barbados". It showed the Government said that Britain had no intention of settling peacefully its dispute with Guatemala over the future of the Caribbean territory of Belize.

Barbados is one of several countries in the region which opposes Guatemala's claim to Belize.

Sri Lanka rebels call off jail hunger strike

Colombo, June 29.—A six-day hunger strike by more than 100 people imprisoned for complicity in an abortive insurrection in Sri Lanka in 1971 was called off today after prison authorities had promised to investigate their grievances, a prison spokesman said.

The first was in protest against alleged denial of privileges as a result of the enforcement of stricter security measures.

Fourteen of the prisoners were admitted to the jail hospital here on the fourth day of the hunger strike. Among them was Mr. R. E. Wijewardene, the leader of the extreme left People's Liberation Front who is serving a life sentence for his part in the insurrection.

23-year jail term sought on Briton at Somali trial

Mogadishu, June 29.—The prosecution today demanded 23-year jail sentences for a British woman and her three co-defendants on trial in Mogadishu on espionage charges.

The verdict is due to be announced tomorrow on Miss Jane Wright, who is 20; Mr. George de Neef, aged 39, from Holland; Miss Charlotte Hollis, aged 25, from South Africa; and Mr. Walter de Rin, aged 33, from Switzerland.

They were accused of spying and illegal entry into Somalia from the British ship, the Julia, near the Somali coast near Hafun, in northern Somalia. They pleaded not guilty.

Their trial, held in closed court, began last Saturday and continued today. A firing squad could have been sought against the four if found guilty of espionage.

But at today's session a Attorney General, in a two-hour summing up, asked the court to impose a sentence of 23 years on each. He also called for the seizure of the Julia.

Mr. Neville Chittick, a British archaeologist, gave evidence in the trial, has been examined by the Attorney General and by the Somali defence counsel, court sources said.

Fourteen witnesses have been heard. Prosecution exhibits included cameras, binoculars and account books.

One official each from British, Swiss and Dutch embassies have been allowed to attend the trial as observers.

He added that the five detained with Mr. Everingham had

Hijack 'to draw Arab attention to Lebanon'

Doha, Qatar, June 29.—A Lebanese man, arrested here today after hijacking the Gulf Air VC10 jetliner with 64 people on board, said he wanted to draw attention to the situation in Lebanon.

Samir Muhammad Hassan Sharara, aged 26, said by officials to be from southern Lebanon, said he believed his hijack was "the best way to attract the attention of Arabs who do not care enough about the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon."

The area is the scene of fighting between Palestinians and the Lebanese left on one side, and the Lebanese right supported by Israel on the other.

Mr Sharara was arrested by Qatar security men after the jetliner landed at Doha. He and nine crew members on board the aircraft, on a flight from London to the Gulf states of Dubai and Oman, was hijacked after taking off from Dubai, where it had been boarded by Mr. Sharara, armed with a silencer-equipped pistol and two hand grenades.

The aircraft has since flown on with its passengers to Muscat, Oman.

An official statement issued here said Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Qatar's Crown Prince and Defence Minister, went to the airport to supervise negotiations with the hijacker.

After Mr Sharara allowed the crew and passengers off the jetliner a group of Qatar security men got inside and arrested the hijacker, the statement said.—Reuter.

US tightening ban on chrome imports

From David Cross
Washington, June 29

The State Department today refused to comment on African allegations that Rhodesian chrome was coming illegally into the United States.

But officials said that negotiations were already under way with industrialized countries like Japan to ensure that their exports to the United States contained no banned minerals from Rhodesia.

A spokesman for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Libreville claimed yesterday that Japan was buying Rhodesian chrome and re-exporting it to the United States in defiance of United Nations

Returning whites boost Rhodesian confidence

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, June 29

The Rhodesian Government is making a big play of the fact that, despite spiralling emigration figures, quite a few whites are returning to live in this country.

Recently published figures show that the average net loss a month is now 980 with 1,754 people having gone in May. This is more than any other month on record, and so far this year a total of 4,917 people have left.

But Mr. Elton Bromberg, the Minister of Immigration, says his department is getting more letters daily from people who left for Britain and elsewhere, but having become disillusioned, now believe that despite its problems, Rhodesia is still a worthwhile country in which to live.

He quoted a typical letter from a 24-year-old electrician from London who wrote to say that he was "very sad I left so much for so little".

Over the months there have been many reports in the local press of people returning from Britain or settling here from Europe, Australia and the United States. Over 400 emigrated here in May.

Those from Britain often cite the high cost of living, the socialist Government, falling educational standards, the power of the trade unions and the general indifferent attitude to life in modern Britain as their main reasons.

Delighted with such letters, Mr. Bromberg is urging Treasury officials to release more money to help such people to return to Rhodesia and so partly redress the emigration

trend. Under current rules immigrants are entitled to financial help only if they have been out of Rhodesia for three years.

Those who do return and prospective immigrants are taking a gamble unless they have guaranteed employment. Sanctions and the costly guerrilla war has hampered the economy considerably and the boom years of the late 1970s are but a pleasant memory. Many businesses have closed or are barely ticking over.

However, because there is such a high emigration rate the labour market can still absorb many whites, particularly technical and professional men. A recent recruiting drive in the depressed South African market by one Salisbury firm brought in nearly 300 immigrants.

The private sector is also striving to improve itself to the advent of black rule, hoping that whoever their future political masters are going to be, they will be disciples of the free enterprise system which has seen Rhodesia develop to what is now a sophisticated economy. Industries have closed or are barely ticking over.

The expectation is that, with settlement having been achieved and the right political climate evolved, the Rhodesian economy will surge ahead once again. Then there will be a tremendous demand for whites. The Rhodesian Government today strongly denied allegations made by the Mozambique Government that the United Nations of incursions by Rhodesian security forces into Mozambique.

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Laos hint that detained Britons will be freed

Bangkok, June 29.—Six foreigners detained in Laos last Thursday will be released soon, Laotian police told diplomats who visited them in a Vietnamese police station today.

According to a British Embassy official, the police had said that the six were still under investigation on charges which have not been officially specified.

The diplomats visited the detainees—three Britons, two French nationals, and Mr. John Everingham, an Australian journalist—and talked to them for about 20 minutes in a converted church, where they are being held about two miles from the centre of Vientiane.

Asked whether they might be expelled, the British official said: "It seems fairly clear that Everingham and at least some of the others will be expelled."

He added that the five detained with Mr. Everingham had

been arrested separately as they drove up to his house in Vientiane for different reasons over a period of hours last Thursday evening. Two Laotian nationalities one of them Mr. Everingham's translator, were also detained and were being held in the police station.

The diplomats, from the British, French and Australian embassies, found the six "all in good health".

The Britons arrested are teachers with the British-based Voluntary Service Overseas organization. They were named as Mr. Ray Oram, 26, his wife, Soufira, and Mr. Ray Kennedy, aged 22.

French Embassy sources have identified the French pair as M. Francois Cerve, from Annecy, and M. Georges Bibollet, a teacher from Dijon.

Mr. Everingham is the Laos correspondent for several Western and Asian news organizations.—Reuter.

Earthquake, not volcano, may have hit Crete

Continued from page 1

ERSEAS

Israel likely to reject Carter demand for territorial concessions

Jerusalem, June 29 — Menachem Begin seems to be only man in Jerusalem who is not upset over the explicit American demand that Israel must be prepared to withdraw from the Golan Heights and the West Bank as a condition for peace negotiations.

The new Prime Minister's comments on the demand for a 511km military zone offer and promise that "everything is possible" so long as the demand is not based on "formalised from without" American statement, through the State Department, was a clear message that the administration was as yet recent comments by Mr. Begin, his Minister, which were seen as meaning that would try to exclude Israel from the West Bank as a condition for peace talks.

Mr. Begin's visit to Washington on July 13 for talks with Carter, officials here are apprehensive. The American state department is on a one-sided withdrawal on all exchange for some of the Arabs, but by encouraging to further demands of an agreement, the Israeli Minister, said on television that the state is "an unprecedented country". He claimed that the United States position is contrary to assurances given by Mr. Carter in Washington warning, thought here to carry a denial, that the formation of the government. Apart from

Ottawa to give way in language dispute

From Our Correspondent Ottawa, June 29

The federal government has served notice that it intends to avoid a collision with Quebec over the controversial issue of linguistic rights. In so doing, it may have antagonized large numbers of English-speaking residents of the predominantly French-speaking province.

A policy document, tabled in the Commons recently, laid down the principle that Canadians possess the right to have their children educated in the official language of their choice — English or French. This freedom of choice, applicable throughout the country, was essential to the survival of Canada. But at the moment, said Mr. John Roberts, the Secretary of State, in a statement on tabling the document, there is only one province where the principle can be freely translated into practice: Quebec.

The freedom of choice that the Quebec education system provides must be extended right across Canada, but this could not be achieved overnight. (Under Canada's federal constitution, education is a provincial responsibility.)

Mr. Roberts then changed direction and talked about Quebec's famous Bill One, now before the Provincial Assembly, which will make French the one official language of Quebec and severely restrict admission to English-language schools.

He argued that Bill One reflects "apprehension" about the future security of the French language and culture of Quebec, and about the way the rest of Canada will be prepared to treat the French language.

"The principle that Canadians have a right to have their children educated in the official language of their choice also recognizes that the people of Quebec might decide that circumstances there could require a determination that full freedom of choice should be deferred until present elements of insecurity for the French language and culture are removed or reduced," he said.

In view of the considerable insecurity at the moment in Quebec concerning the preservation of French in that province, it is the responsibility of Canadians from all provinces to make the status of the French language more secure in Canada. But as long as the present insecurity persists, the Government agrees that the deferment of this principle may be necessary.

Mr. Roberts's statement could be read as a signal that the federal government is leaning away from the idea of challenging the constitutional validity of Bill One in the courts after its expected passage later this summer. This is an option federal authorities have been holding open.

In some quarters, however, the statement was viewed as a betrayal of English-speaking Quebec parents struggling to preserve their right to choose the language of instruction for their children.

At a subsequent Commons sitting, Mr. Joe Clark, the Conservative Opposition leader, asked Mr. Trudeau, the Prime Minister, when it might be possible "to persist with the immediate implementation of the principle of free choice."

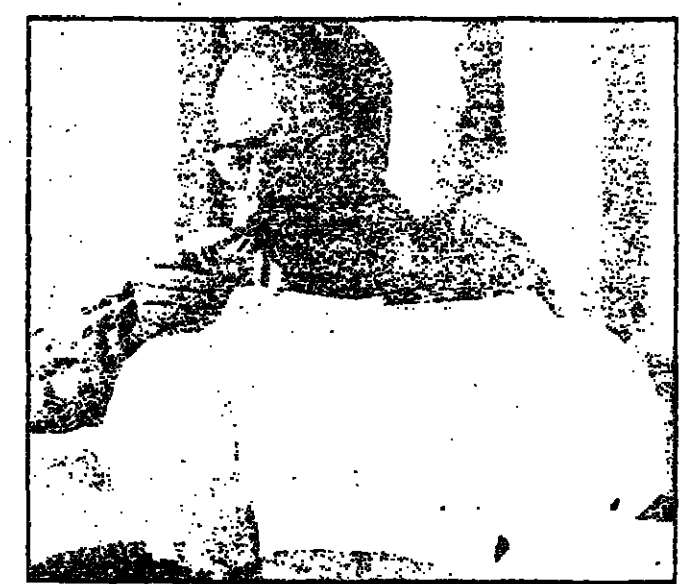
The Prime Minister replied that, in the other provinces, it will depend on how long it takes to provide the educational facilities for French-language minorities that Quebec's English-language minority has enjoyed for 50 years. In Quebec, it would depend on the psychology of those who feel threatened. "I, for one, do not think that the majority of Quebecers feel threatened with extinction," added the Prime Minister.

Fashion

by Prudence Glynn



The fabulous Adrian silhouette, panther hips and boxer shoulders, worn by Claudette Colbert in 'Without Reservations', circa 1946. From the Hollywood Film Costume exhibition at the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, on until July 23.



Edward Maeder, of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, at work on an early nineteenth-century lawn dress, probably English. The restoration of such clothes is a long and tiring process. To restore the ribbons, the dress was washed carefully in bleach, then rinsed 12 times. Maeder uses a neutral detergent for washing, and distilled water for rinsing. The separate skirt has elaborate cuffs and tucks, each one of which has been filled with fibre-free cotton wool and then dried, to restore the shape and bounce of the design. Experts in this, as in many other fields, differ—Lester, for example, not advocating the methods of the late great Lady Leese-Featherstonhaugh, who restored a lot of English tapestries and silk hangings.

The thread of history

"If I'd mentioned the word museum no one would have wanted to know," confided Ted Tilling about his efforts for the new Wimbledon acreage which bears just such a designation. "The moment I said, 'I want you to be in the Hall of Fame for the Golden Oldies,' they all flocked to cooperate."

Which just goes to show that in America the fear of the tomb hangs more heavily even than elsewhere. After all, how can you quickly find a museum, until you are dead, they reckon. So the search for alternatives with less intimations of mortality is on. Conservation is a neat one, and currently you can see a very neat exhibition, sponsored by Courtauld, at the Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. The exhibits come from the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court.

In Manchester you can bathe in the reflected glory of the large screen, while the Whitworth shows Hollywood Film Costume. Or if by chance you are going to New York, try to see the Fashion Institute of Technology's fund raising exhibition of 300 years of dress. In Bob Riley, head of the research and conservation department, FIT has one of the greatest living experts in conservation, and he is backed by a superb library of dresses which range from bead-embroidered gingham by Mainbocher (such a gas, my dear) through the famous Marjorie dinner bathing suit, via Glens, Noré, Triguere, Givenchy, Dior, and a sensational 1860 side-saddle riding outfit with chambray leather drawers to the breeches and a chamois leather jacket to wear (heaven knows how) under the pouter-pigeon padded jacket, to the most perfect examples of Courtauld. One day I shall get him to top up on his British designers, too.

redible centre party Australian politics

uglas Aiton, June 29 — Duglas Aiton, a progressive within the party, always displaying modern attitudes towards such issues as censorship, divorce and abortion, while firmly maintaining his endorsement of the capitalist ethic.

His record was distinguished. During the Gorton and McMahon administrations, he held three portfolios: Navy, tourist activities and customs. It was during the Whitlam years that Mr. Chipp began to fall seriously out of step with his party; and when he made it clear that he was against uranium mining and for Australia's becoming a republic, it was probably too much for Mr. Fraser.

Thus the only real surprise about Mr. Chipp's resignation was that it took so long in coming. Mr. Chipp cannot abide.

This resignation speech made reference to "the Australians who yearned for the emergence of a third political force, representing middle-of-the-road policies which would owe no allegiance to 'outside' pressure groups."

The support gained by the Australian Democrats before even formulating their platform clearly suggests that a large portion of the Australian electorate can identify with neither the Liberal Party nor the Labor Party.

iff and aides charged over jail death

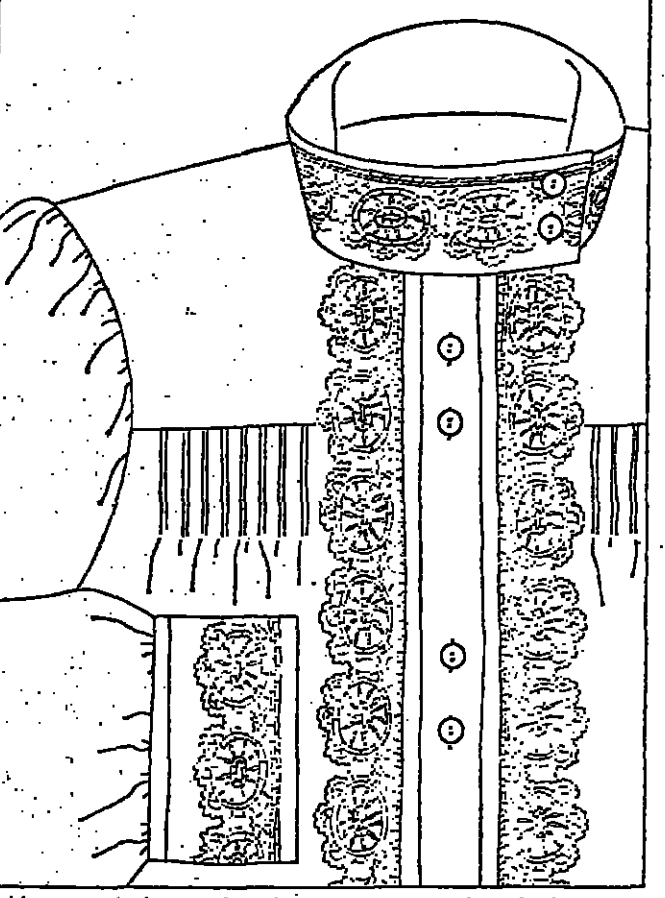
June 29 — The Sheriff of his assistants in unty, Alabama, were yesterday by a federal on charges that they had allowed a prisoner to escape from jail and then murder of a black man escaped. He was not attempting to escape, he had escaped. He was shot and killed. He was shot and killed because it is the sworn duty of every member of this office to protect the public from ambush.

The federal indictment alleged that Mr. Parvis and the other officers had plotted the ambush to put a stop to a series of escapes from the Mobile jail. It said:

"It was part of the plan and purpose of the conspiracy that the conspirators would, without lawful authority, shoot from ambush one or more of the said inmates during a planned escape attempt which was to occur through a hole dug in the wall of the Mobile County jail, of which escape attempt the conspirators had prior knowledge."

"Some of the conspirators concealed themselves in the vicinity of the jail in order to carry out the planned ambush and communicated by radio between themselves as to the progress of the digging of the hole. Deputy Sheriff James A. Stanford shot to death inmate Louis Wallace when Wallace attempted to escape through the hole dug in the north wall of the jail."

Mr. Thomas Ray, a communications specialist in the Sheriff's department, was indicted on two counts of perjury before the grand jury in connection with the case. Mr. Thomas Ray, a former assistant United States Attorney serving as the lawyer for one of the men indicted in the case, was indicted on charges of jury tampering. He allegedly tried to influence a cousin who was serving on the jury. — New York Times News Service.



A blouse made from antique lace and cotton or lawn by Mrs Helen Brewin of The Clerg House, 89 Westwick Crescent, Sheffield. This enterprising wife of the cloth combines the roles of "clever wife, scholar's mate, and schoolteacher" with those of designer, and "I rummage and fight with middle-aged ladies brandishing umbrellas at all the local jumble sales to find interesting, unusual material." Each blouse, hand made from sought out pieces, comes with its own lavender bag and costs £15-£18 according to style. Mrs Brewin is just off to Turkey in seek out further scraps. Drawn by Lyn Gier



Jennifer Fitzgerald-Bond of the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court (the principal is Mrs Karen Finch, OBE) working on a pair of eighteenth-century shoes

PS on scent

Following my racy revelations last week, discussion has galloped on to why more cosmetic companies with men's ranges in the stable do not sponsor more sportsmen/male sporting events. It was a good week for such observations, what with cricket and tennis on every small screen around somewhere. Tennis I love and watch, so it was not hard for me to find a suitable male in that game; for the mature, beefcake image, who more handsome than John Newcombe in those fetching striped sleeves and chic woolly gilet? But the world of cricket I know nothing of, and it is quite by mistake, or rather pressing the wrong knob, that I find myself in a position to suggest three simply smashing men, all quite different in type (identification, or at any rate wishful thinking, is an inherent part of cosmetic purchase whether by women for men or by men for themselves.)

If the blond, leonine aggressor is what you go for, then Tony Greig is a superb specimen—it goes without saying that everyone I pick is inter alia the tops in his sport; we go only for quality on this page—but if you prefer the dark, dazzling modest sort who leaves the whole feminine section of the Sunningdale tennis club dance singing from the wisteria-clad parlour of daddy's country house (I know, P. G. Wode-

house is needed for this passage) then Woolmer is your man.

For those who adore nostalgic little blondes (the Prince of Wales, Leslie Howard), cricket also provides a gentleman called Underwood, who may for all I know be six foot four, but certainly fits the face. In racing, of course, the only man worth going for is Lester Piggott. You just know you could bring a smile to that sardonic face with a pat round the chops of Braggi, Aramis, or Brut. Come to think of it, did not Brylcreem feature in its advertisements Dennis Compton, whose endearingly beggy "longs" were for me the highlight of the Gaumont British News of yesterday?

Incidentally, when *Nationwide* was reliving highlights from Fred Perry's Wimbledon championship days, Fred was asked whether his long white flannels—de rigueur wear—did not hamper play, he let fall the gem that "one had them made especially wide in the thigh and full in the seat—so that you can bend down quickly."

Perhaps that is the reason for the disgraceful, and alas only too typical behaviour of the All England Club, towards Bunny Austin, chronicled in a letter to *The Times* June 28. Bunny Austin was the first man to wear shorts at Wimbledon, in 1932 I shall now promote the notion that it was not his political affiliation to Moral Rearmament, not his move to America in the war (lots of people went), it was his unsporting sartorial reform which gave him the edge on those still catching their plimsolls in the turnups of their trousers.

Do not dismiss my theory too lightly; it was sartorial reform which got Ted Tilling barred from the favour of the All England Club. After, like Austin, years of service in tennis and countless pleasure to millions through his designs for the world's stars, Ted was barred after the Gussie Moran lace panties excitement. Until this year he queued up for tickets like Mr Austin, played for them himself and stepped through the hallowed portals of the Clubhouse for the first time in 28 years when the BBC flew him in from Philadelphia specifically to take part in the long eponymous show. Without Mr Tilling's help, the dress section of the new museum at Wimbledon could not have existed. Thus we reward our successes.

"In America, no one talks to the runner-up." Billie Jean King told me. The trouble with Britain seems to be that we are more at ease with the loser (provided he or she loses gracefully) than with the naked force of winners, in whatever game. In the interests of all society we ought surely to find a balance. Mine is to tell Mrs

in to end facilities Navy

Bahrain, June 29 — The decision to end its with the United Kingdom port facilities with Fleet, a Foreign spokesman announced. The decision will be made tomorrow. The decision was decided "by us" to allow the to retain a naval run by the Department.

Three Chinese radicals reviled at mass rally

From David Bonavia Hongkong, June 29

Three supporters of the disgraced radical faction in China have been forced to attend a mass rally of more than a million people to denounce and revile them in the south-western city of Kunming, according to broadcasts from the city's radio station.

Civilians and soldiers took part in the denunciation rally. The broadcast said: "The army men and people roared when it was announced that Chu Ku-chia, Huang Chao-chi and Liu Yin-ming would be present at the scene to undergo denunciations, exposure and criticism. All their hatred erupted like volcanoes. They said what they wanted to say but could not

say during the time when the four pests were running rampant."

The "four pests" are Mao Tse-tung's widow, Chiang Ching and her former political associates. The three men hailed out at the Kunming meeting are considered to have acted as her agents during the period of radical excess from 1974 onwards.

Mr Chu Ku-chia was a senior functionary in the provincial Communist Youth League, an alternate member of the standing committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and a delegate to the fourth National People's Congress in 1975. Mr Huang Chao-chi was an army officer in the provincial administration and Mr Liu Yin-ming was a prominent member of the municipal party committee.

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By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

By Jim Reardon

Hunter show

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

The Edward, Prince of Wales, Cup for the best young horse from an entry of 237 at the National Hunt Improvement Society at Stroudbury yesterday was awarded by Robert Lorthouse and John Castledine to the two-year-old brown gelding, Fair Spirit, who is owned by the Queen's dressmaker, Lady Thomas, and his partner in equestrian matters, Sam Jennings. The winner was bred by Lorthouse in May. He also won the Longcross Cup for the best animal by a premium stallion; the Longcross Cup is awarded to the best two-year-old thoroughbred young hunter, and finally Bob Matson selected him to win the Lloyd's Bank qualifier, which will take place at Wembley in November. The Show at Wembley, in October.

Reserve for the championship was the three-year-old bay thoroughbred Chadstone, by Crescendo and Mrs. E. J. Compton, and Mrs. E. Dawson's Danter. The surprise of the season was the three-year-old bay gelding the winning three-year-old non-thoroughbred, Tom Danter, by Spartan Kluge.

At the Lloyds' sales, the best qualifier was the champion broodmare Mrs. S. C. Lloyd's Cathryn, by Mr. J. H. Lloyd, and the Little Cloud out of an Irish mare, Limerick, by Fownhill. Cathryn's foal, a yearling, was the champion broodmare, Mrs. J. H. Lloyd's Adkins and John Stephens did not hesitate to give her the decision as the best of the yearlings. The best weight mare, Mrs. H. J. Jett's Myrtal, owned by Mrs. J. H. Jett, and the best weight gelding, Mrs. J. H. Jett's Skizner, in 1970, but was never shown under saddle.

Judging lasted from nine in the morning to one on weekdays, and was desired time, but it was attributed to the fact that the two and three-year-olds were not yet ready as those for yearlings. It is encouraging that so many three-year-olds

[illegible]

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto Blue Jays B, New York Yankees 5; New York Yankees 4, Toronto Blue Jays 4; Chicago White Sox 10, Seattle Mariners 1; Baltimore Orioles 4, Kansas City Royals 3; California Angels 1, Oakland Athletics 0.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Phillies 3, New York Mets 1; Chicago Cubs 4, St. Louis Cardinals 3; Los Angeles Dodgers 4, Atlanta Braves 2; Cincinnati Reds 4, San Francisco Giants 3; Houston Astros 5, San Diego Padres 1; St. Louis Cardinals 6, Pittsburgh Pirates 2; Los Angeles Dodgers 10, New York Mets 1.

Athletics

With two try-scorers being kept back for each event in the European Cup semi-finals—one as a reserve and the other to strengthen their depth in strength with the A match against France, in Nice, on the 11th of October.

Broadbent, Kiefer, and Tony Simmons, are just two of the top players in the world, and are kept as reserves for the 5,000 and 10,000 metres, where Britain will be represented by those and Ian Stewart, the top 100 metres runner.

Surtees, A. Weatherill, 5,000m; 10,000m; 15,000m; 20,000m; 25,000m; 30,000m; 35,000m; 40,000m; 45,000m; 50,000m; 55,000m; 60,000m; 65,000m; 70,000m; 75,000m; 80,000m; 85,000m; 90,000m; 95,000m; 100,000m; 105,000m; 110,000m; 115,000m; 120,000m; 125,000m; 130,000m; 135,000m; 140,000m; 145,000m; 150,000m; 155,000m; 160,000m; 165,000m; 170,000m; 175,000m; 180,000m; 185,000m; 190,000m; 195,000m; 200,000m; 205,000m; 210,000m; 215,000m; 220,000m; 225,000m; 230,000m; 235,000m; 240,000m; 245,000m; 250,000m; 255,000m; 260,000m; 265,000m; 270,000m; 275,000m; 280,000m; 285,000m; 290,000m; 295,000m; 300,000m; 305,000m; 310,000m; 315,000m; 320,000m; 325,000m; 330,000m; 335,000m; 340,000m; 345,000m; 350,000m; 355,000m; 360,000m; 365,000m; 370,000m; 375,000m; 380,000m; 385,000m; 390,000m; 395,000m; 400,000m; 405,000m; 410,000m; 415,000m; 420,000m; 425,000m; 430,000m; 435,000m; 440,000m; 445,000m; 450,000m; 455,000m; 460,000m; 465,000m; 470,000m; 475,000m; 480,000m; 485,000m; 490,000m; 495,000m; 500,000m; 505,000m; 510,000m; 515,000m; 520,000m; 525,000m; 530,000m; 535,000m; 540,000m; 545,000m; 550,000m; 555,000m; 560,000m; 565,000m; 570,000m; 575,000m; 580,000m; 585,000m; 590,000m; 595,000m; 600,000m; 605,000m; 610,000m; 615,000m; 620,000m; 625,000m; 630,000m; 635,000m; 640,000m; 645,000m; 650,000m; 655,000m; 660,000m; 665,000m; 670,000m; 675,000m; 680,000m; 685,000m; 690,000m; 695,000m; 700,000m; 705,000m; 710,000m; 715,000m; 720,000m; 725,000m; 730,000m; 735,000m; 740,000m; 745,000m; 750,000m; 755,000m; 760,000m; 765,000m; 770,000m; 775,000m; 780,000m; 785,000m; 790,000m; 795,000m; 800,000m; 805,000m; 810,000m; 815,000m; 820,000m; 825,000m; 830,000m; 835,000m; 840,000m; 845,000m; 850,000m; 855,000m; 860,000m; 865,000m; 870,000m; 875,000m; 880,000m; 885,000m; 890,000m; 895,000m; 900,000m; 905,000m; 910,000m; 915,000m; 920,000m; 925,000m; 930,000m; 935,000m; 940,000m; 945,000m; 950,000m; 955,000m; 960,000m; 965,000m; 970,000m; 975,000m; 980,000m; 985,000m; 990,000m; 995,000m; 1,000,000m; 1,005,000m; 1,010,000m; 1,015,000m; 1,020,000m; 1,025,000m; 1,030,000m; 1,035,000m; 1,040,000m; 1,045,000m; 1,050,000m; 1,055,000m; 1,060,000m; 1,065,000m; 1,070,000m; 1,075,000m; 1,080,000m; 1,085,000m; 1,090,000m; 1,095,000m; 1,100,000m; 1,105,000m; 1,110,000m; 1,115,000m; 1,120,000m; 1,125,000m; 1,130,000m; 1,135,000m; 1,140,000m; 1,145,000m; 1,150,000m; 1,155,000m; 1,160,000m; 1,165,000m; 1,170,000m; 1,175,000m; 1,180,000m; 1,185,000m; 1,190,000m; 1,195,000m; 1,200,000m; 1,205,000m; 1,210,000m; 1,215,000m; 1,220,000m; 1,225,000m; 1,230,000m; 1,235,000m; 1,240,000m; 1,245,000m; 1,250,000m; 1,255,000m; 1,260,000m; 1,265,000m; 1,270,000m; 1,275,000m; 1,280,000m; 1,285,000m; 1,290,000m; 1,295,000m; 1,300,000m; 1,305,000m; 1,310,000m; 1,315,000m; 1,320,000m; 1,325,000m; 1,330,000m; 1,335,000m; 1,340,000m; 1,345,000m; 1,350,000m; 1,355,000m; 1,360,000m; 1,365,000m; 1,370,000m; 1,375,000m; 1,380,000m; 1,385,000m; 1,390,000m; 1,395,000m; 1,400,000m; 1,405,000m; 1,410,000m; 1,415,000m; 1,420,000m; 1,425,000m; 1,430,000m; 1,435,000m; 1,440,000m; 1,445,000m; 1,450,000m; 1,455,000m; 1,460,000m; 1,465,000m; 1,470,000m; 1,475,000m; 1,480,000m; 1,485,000m; 1,490,000m; 1,495,000m; 1,500,000m; 1,505,000m; 1,510,000m; 1,515,000m; 1,520,000m; 1,525,000m; 1,530,000m; 1,535,000m; 1,540,000m; 1,545,000m; 1,550,000m; 1,555,000m; 1,560,000m; 1,565,000m; 1,570,000m; 1,575,000m; 1,580,000m; 1,585,000m; 1,590,000m; 1,595,000m; 1,600,000m; 1,605,000m; 1,610,000m; 1,615,000m; 1,620,000m; 1,625,000m; 1,630,000m; 1,635,000m; 1,640,000m; 1,645,000m; 1,650,000m; 1,655,000m; 1,660,000m; 1,665,000m; 1,670,000m; 1,675,000m; 1,680,000m; 1,685,000m; 1,690,000m; 1,695,000m; 1,700,000m; 1,705,000m; 1,710,000m; 1,715,000m; 1,720,000m; 1,725,000m; 1,730,000m; 1,735,000m; 1,740,000m; 1,745,000m; 1,750,000m; 1,755,000m; 1,760,000m; 1,765,000m; 1,770,000m; 1,775,000m; 1,780,000m; 1,785,000m; 1,790,000m; 1,795,000m; 1,800,000m; 1,805,000m; 1,810,000m; 1,815,000m; 1,820,000m; 1,825,000m;

[illegible]

Nadja, sailed by Jory Christen, won her third race of the series when she captured the first in a short handicap race of the three-quarter-class in the Level Rating championships at Lynden. The 10-year-old, bay mare, who still is none, the first over an Olympic course today, and the Morgan Cup offshore race tomorrow, was the first to place to win overall to her class Sunday over a similar, but shorter course yesterday, the half-ton fleet was headed by Nadja (A. Lunt) and she caught the first cut in near the top of her class. In the quarter-class, David Robinson's 10-year-old, white, also scored his third win, and the 10-year-old, bay, gelding, Phoebe finished runner-up for the third

boats were never out of sight of each other. Purple Haze led round the point, but she was overtaken at the extremity of the course, but Wings passed her wide berth around the Isle of Wight. She was overtaken by the buoy boat, finished three minutes 30 seconds after the start, about seven o'clock yesterday morning.

Wings crossed the finishing line in 10 minutes 40 seconds, having sailed 13 miles further than the quarter-master. The half-ton fleet became widely spread as the result of winds and tide, but the tail-enders of the fleet were still flushing up to eight hours later. They were caught out by a big swell, and the 10-year-old, bay, gelding, Phoebe, was the last to finish south-west during the night and the leading group were all well

These two boats are literally hours faster than their rivals over an offshore course, although their time this week are admittedly huge in hindsight. The boat is being hauled back with Purple Base as being more like match-racing than offshore racing and the two

Cycling

'Cannibal' hopes to regain his appetite for victory

Paris, June 25.—Eddy Merckx, of Belgium, will set out tomorrow to win the Tour de France road cycling race for the sixth time. Merckx and Jacques Anquetin, of France, have been named as the favorites for the last Tour de France for Merckx, who was 32 years of age at the start of the 1974 edition. Merckx, known as "Cannibal", came from this fierce demand on his appetite.

His position as a favorite for the 1975 mile, 23-stage, race was perhaps more to the Merckx legend than the great man's current form and physical fitness. "I would not compete all I like, not think I have the strength,"

Merckx has not been winning consistently for two years, but the Tour de France is different from any other race and Merckx knows this.

His question of wearing the opposition out of knowing when and where to attack or the low. "I am prepared to pit my strength against the men and the men who made his first professional appearance 13 years ago after winning the world amateur title in 1965."

Until 1970 he had competed in five Tours and won them all. That year he lost to Bernard Thévenet, of France, in the space of a few hours.

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THIS WEEK'S SUPER SHARE OUT

£253,241

TOP MULTI-DIVIDEND WINNERS INCLUDE

BRISTOL HOUSEWIFE	£20,323	STOKE HOUSEWIFE	£21,875
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8 GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE—5 DIVIDENDS

24 pts	£4,928.75		
23 pts	£55.05		
22½ pts	£9.50	FOR 1/8p	
22 pts	£6.40		
21½ pts	£0.85		

Nothing Barred
4 DRAWS £2.7

Nothing Barred
10 HOMES £1,129.28
 (Paid on 9 correct)

Nothing Barred
3 AWAYS VOID
 (See Rule 9(i)). Stakes may be used in payment of clients' next entries.

Expenses and Commission for 11th June 1977—31.4%.
 All dividends except Treble Chances declared to units of 15p.

By Geoffrey Green hear the applause inside swelling bottles. With them,

[illegible]

Women's singles

Semi-final round

MISSES S. W. WADE (U.S.), best Miss
T. M. EVERTY (U.S.), 4-0, 6-0.

MISSES B. F. STOVE (Netherlands), best
Miss S. RANKIN (GR.), 4-0, 6-0.

P. G. BENT (Australia) and Mrs. L. W.
KING (U.S.), best S. DUNN (U.S.)
and Miss P. L. HESTON (U.S.), 6-0.

J. P. ELLIOTT and Miss M. GORDON
beat J. Carmichael and Miss
KING, 6-0.

NICHOLS V. C. E. HARRIS
(Scotland), Miss T. J.
O'NEIL and Miss S. CURRIE.

SIX: F. HUGHES v.
Y. NASH v. V. A. W.
(Ireland), M. A. LEWIS
married.

SEVEN: M. OSMITA v.
1924 (Ireland), Miss G.
MISS S. A. WILSON
married, Miss M. GORDON.

Men's doubles

[illegible]

R. L. CASE and G. L. HALL are level with HEWITT and E. D. M.

Women's doubles
Fourth round
Mrs. R. L. Carver, Australia, and Miss A. C. Russell, U.S., beat Miss B. Cuppers and Miss M. Kruger 6-3, 6-2.

Mixed double

Second round

R. J. Carmichael (Australia) and Miss I. S. Kloss (SA beat J. R. Smith and Miss C. Volkswort (GB).

Berolina (Sweden).

FOUR: G. I. Reid v. A. Ambray (Gale); J. Bracken and R. Eizen (Williams (Sweden); H. Bergard and Y. P. Donald (J. W. Gunn and J. R. McDonald (Sweden).

TO THE JARKLANDS: J. Mills (Gale); J. Bosty (Williams (Sweden); J. D. Brown v. B. A. Dowd (Gale); J. P. L. Tracher (Gale); J. E. McAllister v. B. Beach (Gale).

qualifier was the champion broodmare Mrs S. C. Lloyd's Cathy

Garnette, bred in Cornwall, is a stout, but not a heavy, horse. Limerick by Foroughi, Cathie Garnette was champion mare here two years ago, and Colonel Jackson and John Stephens also made good use of her. The horse was the expense of the winning light weight star, Mrs H. S. Jeffs's My Knight, who was champion foal here for the year. Norman Skimmer, bred in 1970, but was never shown under saddle.

Judging lasted from nine in the morning until 6.30 on an unimproved track, but was well attended. The fact that the two and three-year-old classes were as well filled as those for yearlings. It is encouraging that so many three-year-olds are still being shown.

The champion filly was J. M.

Marshall's Stardust V by Foxstar
home-bred at South Milford in
Yorkshire. Reserve went to Joanne
Vargen, of the National Foaling
Bank, in Shropshire, with Crown
Aquamarine, a yearling, by Quality
Fair out of Crown Sapphire, repre-

F. Mallison
Van't Hof

with the use of thorough premium stallions.

EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES CUP
1. Thomas and S. Jeffries's Fair Sport
Res. Lord Compton and Mrs. R. Dawson
Damer's Chardstone.

LYONS BANK QUALIFIER: Fair
Sport. Res. Mrs. S. C. Lloyd's Cath
Garnett.

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Baseball

—AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto Blue Jays 8, New York Yankees 5; Boston Red Sox 10, Detroit Tigers 3; Chicago White Sox 10, Seattle Mariners 4; Minnesota Twins 8, Milwaukee Brewers 3; Kansas City Royals 3, St. Louis Cardinals 2.

NATIONAL
Politics 3.

3. Mappin
 4. Miss L.
 5. N. C.
 6. R. J. Gar-
 7. Miller v 8.
 8. v F. D.
 9.

10. J. Montez Bonds 2; Los Angeles
 11. Dodgers 3; Atlanta Braves 2; Cin-
 12. cinnati Reds 11; San Francisco Giants
 13. 4; Houston Astros 5; San
 14. Padres 1; St. Louis Cardinals 6; Pitts-
 15. burgh Pirates 1; St. Louis Cardinals 15;
 16. Pittsburgh Pirates 2.

SPORT
Racing

Arctic Tern will arrive late this year

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

One of the first real opportunities to compare some of the leading three-year-olds in training with their elders will be afforded us in the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park on Saturday. This year the list of four-day acceptors comprises four older horses and six three-year-olds and from the start I must hasten to point out to anyone contemplating a bet ante-post that this has not been a three-year-old race in recent years.

In the last 10 years Mill Reef has been the only three-year-old to win it always assuming that one ignores the detail that Wollow was awarded first prize last year after the disqualification of Trepan. Noel Murless once told me that it takes a good three-year-old to beat decent older horses in the Eclipse and it spoke volumes for Mill Reef when he ran away from the crack French four-year-old, Caro, in the straight.

Arctic Tern, Lucky Wednesday, Rymer and Radetsky are the older horses who have stood their ground for Saturday's trial of strength. Anyone contemplating a bet on the French four-year-old, Arctic Tern, of the strength of his victory in the Grand Prix at Longchamp on May 1, when he beat Excelebrer by half a length, or his subsequent efforts in the Prix d'Arc de Triomphe on the same course, where he failed by only three quarters of a length to give Trepan 5lb, might be well advised to wait until he has seen the horse in the paddock.

Arctic Tern is in good spirits according to the contact of mine in Chantilly, where he worked well on Tuesday morning, but he is a notoriously bad traveller and his journey has taken so much out of him so as to completely spoil his chance of winning. In that case anyone who had backed him ante-post would be on a loser.

In these circumstances Lucky Wednesday appeals to me as a better bet at present. He has won his last three races at all three distances and, judged on the way that he won the Prince of Wales Stakes at Royal Ascot, he will be a tough nut for the three-year-olds to crack. Admittedly, he includes the Irish challenger, Artaxos, who has already finished second in the French Grand Prix, but the more one has been pressed in pointing a finger of suspicion at the quality of the best three-year-olds in the country, the more one has been justified in pointing a finger of suspicion at the quality of the best three-year-olds in the country.

Sagaro is known principally as the only horse to have ever won the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot and, while Saturday's race should also clarify the quality of the better three-year-olds in the country, it is in training in this country because the field will include the three-year-old, Secret, who finished second in the 1,000 Guineas prior to occupying the same position in the Oaks.

The Park Top Handicap at Brighton is the most valuable race today. It will be won, I hope, by Lady Mason, who is owned by



Captain's Wing (centre) wins the Friend-James Handicap at Brighton yesterday.

Mark Armistead, who last saw his green colours carried to victory in the Brighton Gold Cup a day in 1968, when his good sprinter, St. Albans, set a record time for the five furlong course, a time which still stands today. It is best judged on his fluent performance at Newmarket in May rather than on his slightly disappointing subsequent effort at Epsom. At Newmarket, Lady Mason never looked like being beaten in the Richard Marsh Handicap, which was run over today's distance, whereas at Epsom she never looked like winning the Berger Coleridge Handicap, which was run over today's distance, whereas at Epsom she never looked like winning the Berger Coleridge Handicap, which was run over today's distance.

Now that she will be racing over a mile and a quarter, Lady Mason should be in her element and she is preferred to Comtesse Lor. At this time, Lady Mason could be much out of him so as to completely spoil his chance of winning. In that case anyone who had backed him ante-post would be on a loser.

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Wings at stud out there. I can keep the colt until he is trained by Brian Swift, who may try for a five-furlong race in the Victoria Handicap at Sandown Park on Saturday. He's got a two pounds penalty for the race.

Geoff Lewis, top jockey at Brighton, completed an easy double on Glenjade and Lady Mason. Glenjade was in from right on the furlong pole in the Woodbine Stakes and the combination won by four lengths from Rocket Drive.

Glenjade came out a red hot favourite after finishing fourth to Deed of Gift first time out, but before racing, took the trouble to inspect the new strip of ground on the inside rail.

This had been previously dented off after last year's drought damage and Swift, satisfied with the track, instructed Lewis to keep Glenjade on the new turf.

Freeze the Secret and Artaxos well backed. Ladbrokes report substantial support for Artaxos in the Eclipse Stakes, at Sandown Park, on Saturday and have cut their 5-1 offer to 4-1. Arctic Tern has been laid at 12-1, but the fact that he has made him 3-1 joint favourite with Lucky Wednesday. Corals have had support for Freeze the Secret and lowered her odds from 12-1 to 8-1.

Sagaro for national stud. Triple Ascot Gold Cup winner, Sagaro, will stand at the national stud at Newmarket. The Levy Board had agreed to buy the French trained stayer for £175,000 subject only to a veterinary examination. The Levy Board used money set aside from the sale of the West Gristead Stud in 1972 for the purchase.

STATE OF GOING (official). Great Britain: Good to firm. Ireland: Good to firm. Scotland: Good to firm. France: Good to firm. Germany: Good to firm. Italy: Good to firm. Spain: Good to firm. Portugal: Good to firm. Greece: Good to firm. Turkey: Good to firm. Japan: Good to firm. South Africa: Good to firm. Australia: Good to firm. New Zealand: Good to firm. Canada: Good to firm. USA: Good to firm. Mexico: Good to firm. Central America: Good to firm. Caribbean: Good to firm. South America: Good to firm. Africa: Good to firm. Asia: Good to firm. Oceania: Good to firm.

Law Report June 29 1977

Defendant added after expiry of time bar

Marubeni Corporation and Another v Pearlstone Shipping Corporation
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Shaw
(Judgments delivered June 27)

The court has a wide discretion, though it will exercise it carefully, in the event of a party to an action, under the Rules of the Supreme Court, even though to do so will deprive the party so joined of a defence upon the time bar in the Hague Rules.

The court of appeal held in granting an application for an order for the defendant to be added to the proceedings, that the court has a wide discretion, though it will exercise it carefully, in the event of a party to an action, under the Rules of the Supreme Court, even though to do so will deprive the party so joined of a defence upon the time bar in the Hague Rules.

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Matsumoto was appointed as a third party to the proceedings, but the court accepted service in October. Particulars were issued in November, and a summons under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court was taken out in December. It seemed as if a plain case that the ship was liable for the damage.

But then, to the surprise of the cargo owners and their representatives, the shipowners put in a defence saying that at the time of the shipment the vessel was chartered to an Argentine company, now described as Ultramar SA, and there were other intervening charterers. At any rate, the shipowners said they were not liable to the cargo owners, but to the demise charterers.

The question then arose whether they could do so. The court said that it was too late because incorporated in the contract was Article III, rule 6 of the Hague Rules, which provided that the cargo owners could not sue the shipowners, but only the demise charterers.

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Interest in land created by right of pre-emption

Pritchard v Briggs and Others
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Shaw
(Judgments delivered June 24)

A right of pre-emption created an interest in land having priority over other interests created by deed or otherwise, and was enforceable against the grantor which was contained in a contract for the sale of land.

The court of appeal held in granting an application for an order for the defendant to be added to the proceedings, that the court has a wide discretion, though it will exercise it carefully, in the event of a party to an action, under the Rules of the Supreme Court, even though to do so will deprive the party so joined of a defence upon the time bar in the Hague Rules.

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was caught in a variant of Morten's fork: a sale of the retained lands in the major's life had to be to Mr Briggs at £2,000, and the major's death it had to be to Mr Pritchard at £2,000.

In the event, the major died, and the major's death it had to be to Mr Pritchard at £2,000. The court of appeal held in granting an application for an order for the defendant to be added to the proceedings, that the court has a wide discretion, though it will exercise it carefully, in the event of a party to an action, under the Rules of the Supreme Court, even though to do so will deprive the party so joined of a defence upon the time bar in the Hague Rules.

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Brighton programme

- 2.00 HENFIELD STAKES (2-y-o: £875: 5f 6yds)
1 03046 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
2 03047 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
3 03048 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
4 03049 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
5 03050 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
6 03051 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
7 03052 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
8 03053 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
9 03054 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
10 03055 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)

Carlisle programme

- 2.15 CUMRUW STAKES (2-y-o: £1,024: 6f)
1 03056 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
2 03057 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
3 03058 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
4 03059 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
5 03060 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
6 03061 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
7 03062 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
8 03063 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
9 03064 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
10 03065 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)

Carlisle selections

- By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Winnie, 2.45 Lunsdale, 3.15 WALK AROUND is specially recommended, 3.45 Wind, 4.15 Romney Light, 4.45 Yoochoo.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
4.15 Romney Light, 4.45 Hope of Glory.

Brighton selections

- By Our Racing Correspondent
2.00 Food for Thought, 2.30 Sahib's Daughter, 3.00 LADY MASON is specially recommended, 3.30 County Boy, 4.0 The Goldstone, 4.30 Hampshire.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Pearl Haven, 3.0 Countess Lor, 3.30 Halls Treasure, 4.0 Dancing Robe.

Great Yarmouth programme

- 2.30 SOMERLEYTON STAKES (2-y-o: £1,111: 6f)
1 03066 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
2 03067 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
3 03068 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
4 03069 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
5 03070 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
6 03071 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
7 03072 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
8 03073 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
9 03074 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)
10 03075 Goldcrest (D. J. P. G. Hamshaw 3-10)

Great Yarmouth selections

- By Our Racing Staff
2.30 AZUCENA is specially recommended, 3.0 Harry's Fizzle, 3.30 Heavenly Choir, 4.0 Greenstead Lad, 4.30 N.B. Export, 5.0 Woolley.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Azucena, 3.30 Morning Lion, 4.0 Funny Valentine, 4.30 K.B. Export, 5.0 Mummy's Star.

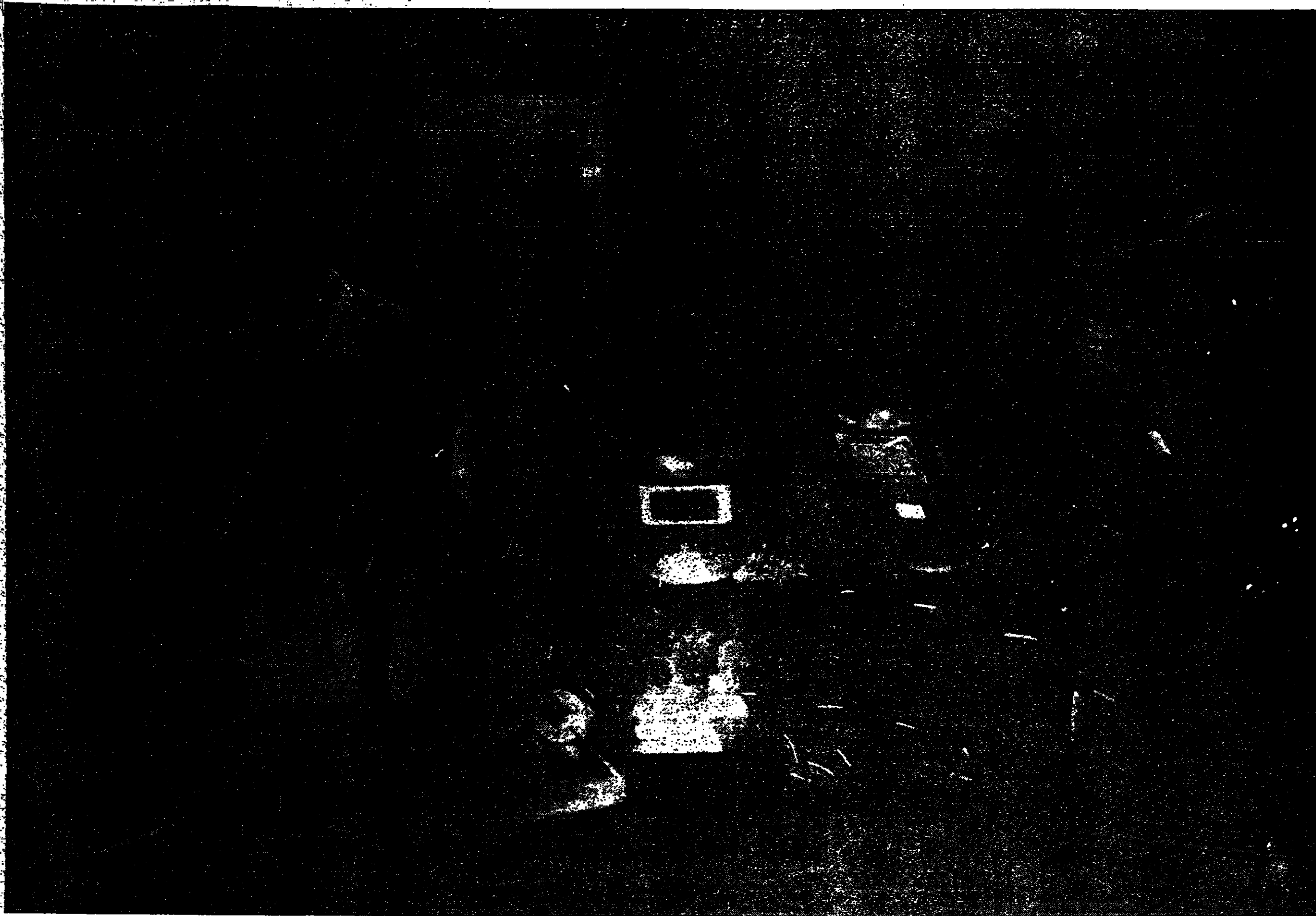
The Marshall Inquiry on Greater London

The Greater London Council has asked Sir Frank Marshall to undertake a review of the role of the Council with the following terms of reference:

To examine the relationship between central government, the Greater London Council, other local authorities and statutory bodies, the distribution of powers, functions and duties between them and the exercise thereof in and affecting Greater London, and to make recommendations.

Members of the public and organisations wishing to submit evidence or make representations, are invited to do so by writing as soon as possible and by not later than 30th September 1977 addressed to: The Secretary, The Marshall Inquiry on Greater London, Room 156, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB.

Where it is considered that evidence should be elaborated, discussion will be invited.



Robert Heller with Instructor Colin McNally and a group of craft apprentices in the ICI Training Centre, Wilton.

'For youngsters, unemployment brings lack of purpose. We're determined to avoid that deprivation here'

Brian Jenkins, Personnel Director, ICI Petrochemicals Division, Wilton, Teesside.

At a time of record unemployment, young people and school-leavers are particularly vulnerable. What is ICI, as one of Britain's largest companies, doing to help? Country-wide, ICI, in conjunction with the Manpower Services Commission, was able to find employment for over 600 young people in 1976 in addition to those it would normally employ.

To find out how ICI is tackling the problem on Teesside, its main manufacturing site, Robert Heller, Editor of 'Management Today' talks to Brian Jenkins, Personnel Director at ICI's massive Wilton works.

Heller: How bad is the youth unemployment situation on Teesside?

Jenkins: The unemployment level amongst young people is still critical and the employment prospects for 1977 school-leavers are not very good. Of course it's not like the thirties. When you walk round the centre of Middlesbrough you don't actually see signs of deprivation. But unemployment brings not so much lack of material things, as apathy and lack of purpose. We're determined to avoid that kind of deprivation here.



Skills appreciation in action with Instructor John Fletcher.

Heller: But surely unemployment is ultimately the Government's problem. Why should you worry about it at ICI?

Jenkins: Well, for a kick off, we're by far the biggest private employer on Teesside. We believe that it is crucial for an industry the size we are in this area to live and survive as good neighbours. And that means paying attention not only to getting the youngsters we need to train for the jobs we have to fill, but also to the total environment. As a company we will survive and grow if we live in a thriving and successful community. After all, we're going to call on this neighbourhood for generations to come for our employees.



Brian Jenkins: "The creation of wealth is the best thing you can do for anybody, both in and out of work."

Heller: So you're increasing the number of people you normally take on in the course of a year?

Jenkins: On Teesside as a whole, we take on 200 plus young people annually for permanent employment. But it would be wrong for us to say 'come in all you youngsters in the neighbourhood and work for us'. We're in business to make a profit. To create wealth. What we have done is to take a generous look at, for example, our skilled apprentices. We take more than we need. In fact, over the past few years there's been a considerable increase - At Wilton, our 1976 apprentice intake was 50% higher than that in 1973.

Heller: What else do you do?

Jenkins: We've started a new scheme for training process workers, the people who actually operate the plant and machinery. We'll take on about 60 young people for training on Teesside this year.

Heller: You're trying to create a far better trained and adaptable Process Worker?

Jenkins: That's right. Instruments and process control systems have become increasingly sophisticated. You can't operate them unless you understand them. You need a man of reasonable intellectual ability and a considerable amount of training.

Heller: How long does this training take?

Jenkins: Two years - much of it at a local technical college. They'll end up with City and Guilds qualifications. They also, along with our craft

apprentices, undergo a certain amount of adventure-type training at our own training ground out in the hills. And they're encouraged to work in the community. It's a fairly rounded training.

Heller: To a large extent these youngsters must be the pick of the teenagers in the area. Do you do anything for the vast majority of youngsters who don't measure up to your standards?

Jenkins: Working mainly through the Manpower Services Commission work experience scheme, we give about 200 youngsters here on Teesside a chance to see what goes on in industry; to see what people do at work. These are youngsters who are unemployed, or who come straight from school.

Heller: Is the experience a benefit to the young people themselves?

Jenkins: We believe so. For instance, we spend some time during the weeks they're here actually sitting down with them and asking them about what they want to do with their lives. Telling them about how to prepare for interviews, how to write letters asking for an appointment and so on.

Heller: Do many of them go on to full employment?

Jenkins: Yes. About two thirds of the youngsters go on to get jobs. We think our rate of success is quite high. One of the curious things about schemes for unemployed youths is the very parental attitude it brings out in our staff. Often foremen will ring up supervisors in other companies

and say, 'I've got a likely looking lad here. Would you like to see him?'.

Heller: To what extent do you have to make good the deficiencies of the school system when you're training young people?

Jenkins: This is the great current debate isn't it? We're trying to build a much stronger bridge between Education and ourselves. We encourage school visits. Through our Work Observation scheme, children in their early teens, and shortly to leave school, spend two weeks with us to find out what industry is really like. We talk to careers masters and the representatives of the Education Authority. During the last two years I've noticed us getting much more closely together. We've even invited headmasters to consider the proposition that their teachers should spend a couple of weeks in industry during their vacation.



A group of trainee process workers outside the Olefines Plant, Wilton.

Heller: What about the young people themselves. Do they seem to be interested in industry, do they co-operate and work well?

Jenkins: Oh yes. If you put sufficient effort into helping them, you find you are on fertile ground.

Heller: Finally, do you think there's anything more you should be doing to assist in the problem of unemployed young people, school leavers?

Jenkins: From what I've told you already, I hope you will agree we are doing all we should. To train vastly more people would hamper our ability to produce the wealth this nation needs. And ultimately, the creation of wealth is the greatest single factor of benefit to people, both in and out of work.

Ideas in action



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tech writers

THE TIMES

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HERE ELSE WILL THEY GET JOBS?

Grunwick picketing were place in South Africa or the United States every-where would have seen the colour of the population is about mixed; about half the one meets are coloured and the other half are white. Within a few hundred yards of the there is one of the best restaurants in London. Indian restaurants easily be the places which English dishes. At the site of the Grunwick, a small minority of coloured tries to stop a bus largely coloured people getting to jobs. Mr Arthur Scargill tough-looking group of miners from Yorkshire to the Asian workers.

True that the workers and those who stayed in the Grunwick. But only of coloured workers have shown interest in Grunwick. They one so for an obvious reason. An immigrant community only obtain a place of its own in the host if it is prepared to order and for less pay a existing host community. Grunwick is a and Mr Ward is operat-ally to Grunwick. The basic principle is the that by which Asian operate small shops ative Londoners are not to run.

us that Grunwick does in wages which are reason-omparable with those in similar factory ent, but the success of k has been the result-very competitive price; based on employ-igrants without restric-ices and at high-ive, that is low wages. e when unemployment and it is particularly ong the immigrant com- in London - it is very that coloured workers willing to take jobs on rms. The alternative is yment.

not even be said that this usiness, of which Grun- not an isolated exam-ple, iting the workers. These es could not have come

LOSING THE RIGHT BOMBER

has voted to authorize funding for the B-1 which, at a total cost of 24,800 million, threatens to become the pensive weapon system duced. It is certainly he most controversial. Carter is expected to final decision on the oday and judging from uments and counter- of the past seven years several million Ameri- would like to make it. But it is questionable is yet in a position to

argument against the B-1 t is very costly, and n dispute that. Another hile a generation ahead 22, it by no means prop-rietary answer to res-olutions raised over the manned strategic air- cannot, for instance, sonic at low level - it is not far short of Strategic Air Com- munitism for the B-1 e treated with some SAC have already seen roject collapse and are dably worried about e of the long-range force if the B-1 also to oblivion.

Investment

Chairman of The Stock losing the buyers of part ge holding of British the Government has ne favour towards the sver. What a good thing, welcome reversal of Government policy. For ng (and not just during of the present Govern- bies of official policy has st the individual over- n punished by discrimi- n for putting his sav- k in British industry and

I very much to identify ope in this country with ndustry and trade. We acourage the investment y people's savings in d trade. Direct own- e of the best forms of n. Participation leads to nderstanding of the business and of the society of successful

P said sets the scene for of political attitudes we getting somewhere. dully.

GOODISON, Exchange, EC2.

ost economics

uentin Crewe to remember a very old me about postal rates; as young. She said that 839 it used to cost. On l to send a letter. The according to distance people thought this an

I said there was an- low around at that time memory serves, Rowland

The Grunwick dispute: comparing wage rates

From Professor Alan Day
Sir, Mr David Steel, writing in The Times on June 27 about the Grunwick dispute, discusses the "right of exploited and underpaid workers" to join a union. The right of all workers to join a union is a basic principle. But it should also be questioned whether the Grunwick workers were underpaid even before the 25 per cent increase in basic rates which has apparently come in the last year. A sensible basis of comparison lies between the most recent statements of wage rates and earnings at Grunwick, to be found in the responsible press, and national average rates for women and girls published by the Department of Employment.

One recent responsible report was that, in 1974, Mrs Desai (one of the strikers) started as a part-timer on £0.75 per hour. In April 1976 average hourly earnings for women's earnings in all industries were £0.574 per hour. Another responsible report indicates that last year, basic pay (apparently for a 35-hour week) was between £2.60 and £5.20 - a from about £0.85 to about £1.58 per hour. In April, 1976 average adult women's earnings for full-time manual work were £2.1 per hour, while girls under 18 the figure was £0.63 per hour.

While all such comparisons are notoriously difficult, and while it also has to be accepted that ruling wage rates probably exist in London than the national average, it must be concluded that the evidence for the view that Grunwick workers were underpaid, even before the recent sharp increases, is hardly persuasive.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN DAY,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
June 28.

From Mr R. N. Vallance

Sir, The reported comments of Sir Michael Havers, QC (The Times, June 28) seems to manifest again that dangerous ambivalence towards the legal rights of trade unionists that has characterised Conservative policy in industrial relations matters. Sir Michael describes the law on picketing as conveying an "immunity" not a "right". This is surely a complete distortion of the purpose of legislation on this subject. The immunity is a policy in legislation, less in the field of civil law - the protection of a lawful picket from a civil action for incitement to breach contract. The major function of legislation on this subject since the original 1875 Act has been to state clearly that the right to peacefully picket exists in statute.

Sir Michael's argument, taken to its logical conclusion, would restore the legal status of picketing to the pre 1875 position. He states that it is a myth that a picket has the right to stop a person in a vehicle, however, briefly, to peacefully communicate information. If that were the case, then the peaceful picket

Futures of Europe

From Lord Kennet
Sir, When did anything to raise the spirits last come out of Brussels? Here is a case history.

Once upon a time the European Community had a far sighted Commission, headed up with seeing it lurch from midday morass to midnight crisis and back again, and decided to use all his imagination in getting the long-term view into European policy making. He proposed that the Commission should propose to the Council (which is how you have to proceed) that a study should be made of the problem. The Council was impressed; not only was he right, they decided, but the whole thing was extremely urgent. They voted a lot of money and demanded that the study should be finished within a year.

The Commissioner decided to choose not a safe grey committee man, but a man who was a tax-iless and independent-minded writer, an ex-journalist from a newly joined country. The latter gathered forty extremely distinguished people from all the countries (Europeans are in favour of Europe) and reported, within a year as demanded.

The forty people said you can get the long-term view so long as 1) you have a general study of the Community's own, is not set up inside the Commission, 3) they work out the long-term view, as the Council said, on everything, not just on agriculture, technology, and 4) the Commission and Parliament trust them, which means they must never make their own recommendations, only set out alternatives. By Community standards, the cost of the proposal was modest.

Representatives of the Commission came to meetings of the forty and repeatedly said: would it not

The Cambridge conspiracy

From Mr Peter Hennessy
Sir, May I take the unusual step of associating myself personally with a leading article in the news- paper by which I am employed?

As the author of two articles printed in The Times of June 15 concerning the character and career of the late Donald Beyer, I wish to raise in full the gravest allegations they contained about his involvement in the Philby/Burgess/Maclean affair. In doing so I accept personal responsibility.

I would like to apologise unreservedly to the family, friends and former colleagues of Donald Beyer for the harm and distress caused.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HENNESSY,
New Printing House Square, WCL
June 29.

The unsedentary woman

From Ms Louise Brown
Sir, "Tending children and the cooking pots" is no sedentary occupation (pace Dr Tony Smith, article June 21). While men stir their feet

Implications of the Yuri Orlov trial

From Mr John Macdonald, QC
Sir, Your report today (June 26) that Yuri Orlov has been charged under Article 190 (1) of the RSFSR Criminal Code with spreading "fabrications known to be false" which "defame the Soviet State". This has a significance which extends far beyond Professor Orlov's own case. It means that the Soviet courts will have to determine whether the reports published by the Moscow Helsinki Group on the violation of human rights in the Soviet Union are accurate. Professor Orlov will have a complete defence to the charges if the reports are true, or if he can show that he believed them to be true. If clear that the reports are true, published do not form part of the indictment it will mean that the Soviet authorities have been forced to accept that the activities of the Helsinki Group are within the law. The significance of this would not be lost on either the delegates at the Belgrade conference or on other dissidents throughout Eastern Europe.

On June 13 at the Institute of Physics in London, evidence was presented from 17 people who had travelled from all over the world to testify to the accuracy of the group's reports. The evidence dealt with the separation of families, religious oppression, interference with telephones and letters and in great detail with the most sensitive subjects about which Orlov reported: prison conditions and psychiatric abuse.

Andrey Amalrik described the way in which they had been starved in punishment cells in prisons and camps. Leonid Plyushch and Natalya Gorbanevskaya told of their experiences as patients in a special psychiatric hospital where both were given massive doses of haloperidol. There was evidence from the British psychiatrist who examined Plyushch the day after he was released from hospital and from a doctor who had worked for 14 years in a psychiatric hospital in Leningrad. Ludmila Alexeyeva and Lidia Voronina stated how they had travelled to Vladivostok and Vinnitsa to verify the accuracy of reports.

Each of the witnesses signed the following statement: "If Yuri Orlov is charged, I wish to be summoned to give evidence at the Court or in the Soviet Consulate in the country in which I reside." (Evidence was taken on commission in this way at the Soviet Embassy in Paris in the case of Yakir and Kravtsov.) I have sent all these statements to the Procurator General in Moscow, the President of the Moscow College of Advocates, the Soviet Ambassador in London, and to Professor Orlov and his wife. The official commentary to Article 228 of the RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure makes it clear that the Soviet courts will be under a duty to consider this evidence.

'A Bridge Too Far'

From The Reverend Michael Savard
Sir, General Browning is not alone in receiving somewhat less than fair treatment in the film *A Bridge Too Far*. Others also easily recognisable to students of the operation have been given false names and designations to no particular purpose.

Major Brian Urquhart, the Intelligence officer whose actions in the existence of paratroopers in the Arnhem area were confirmed by aerial reconnaissance, becomes "Major Fuller" for no apparent reason unless it be that having the same surname as the General he might become guilty of confusing the cinema audience. Why stick to fact when fantasy serves any better?

Major Digby Tatham-Warter, whose exploits with an umbrella have passed into Airborne legend, becomes - someone else - easily recognisable to students of the operation even catch the name - and is made to succumb to his wounds in a cellar. According to Cornelius Ryan he was certainly alive in the early 1970s so he may have the intriguing experience of seeing himself die on celluloid.

The Anglican chaplain, Padre Pare, is ecumenically transformed into a Roman Catholic priest mumbling Latin blessings - a better selling point in the States, perhaps?

Do not those whose names are actually in the history books deserve to be treated as themselves? Why do the Attenboroughs of the world play God with men's hard earned reputations, bought frequently in the face of violent death? How would Sir Richard like to be called "Jim Smith" simply to save the public from confusing him with his onetime-loving brother?

In war, truth is said to be the first casualty. And not, it seems, in war only. The cinema will gladly murder it to order.

Yours truly,
MICHAEL SAVARD,
St Matthew's Vicarage,
2 Clancarty Road, SW6,
June 28.

King of Saudi Arabia

From the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia
Sir, I am writing with reference to the report printed in The Times on June 28 concerning the wish of His Majesty King Khalid to abdicate from the Throne of Saudi Arabia.

I should like to deny categorically that there is any element of truth whatsoever in this report. His Majesty is in excellent health and has just concluded a tour of several Saudi Arabian provinces where he was received with wide demonstrations of love and admiration by the Saudi people.

Yours faithfully,
FAISAL ALHEGELAN,
Ambassador,
Saudi Arabian Embassy,
20 Belgrave Square, SW1,
June 29.

The Latin temperament

From Mr Joseph A. Bailey
Sir, Before visiting London as a foreign visitor I had been told that The Times represented the best of British journalism and it was a paper constantly in search of the truth and never given to cheap sensationalism, so it was with great interest that I read your Mr Rex Bellamy's article on page 13 of The Times, June 23. It was the seventh paragraph that caught my attention.

Donatella, has the talent to play well on it. But he lacks something. He is a lazy man by nature. Most Latins are.

Being half "Latin" myself, I found this remark most interesting. So interesting, that I was moved to set out of my hammock, put down my mandolin and spaghetti, scrape the grease off my hair, finish my wine and see if I could possibly muster enough enthusiasm to put paper in typewriter. Fortunately, since I'm only half Latin, I could.

However, due to my ethnic background I find I don't have the wherewithal to follow through. Just too lazy, I suppose. So, being typically "Latin" I'll ask you to do it. The next time Mr Bellamy comes out from under his rock, please inform him that it is an ignominy by nature. But then, most Englishmen are.

Were I 100 per cent Anglo-Saxon, I would also like to tell him, in simple words of one syllable, about the ancient people who came to these islands, built the roads, viaducts and cities, introduced literacy and convinced the natives to come out of the woods and stop painting themselves blue. But alas, it's time for my siesta. Maybe mañana.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH A. BAILEY,
80 Rossmore Court,
Park Road, NW1,
June 27.

Performing riches

From Mr Trevor Lyttleton
Sir, All composers in this country have in effect to join the Performing Rights Society if they wish to receive royalties from the public performance of their musical works.

At Thursday's annual general meeting of PRS (which this year collected over £21m) the rearing council members will be re-elected and proposals for an independent review of PRS will be defeated with no real opposition. Despite the fact that 1,170 PRS members (more than the more 12 per cent who have the vote) favour such a review, the council, by refusing to release the list of voting members, has effectively prevented its opponents from campaigning for votes.

Can there be a more ingenious self-perpetuating oligarchy than a council which alone elects the voting members, who in turn elect the council, and reserves to itself the sole right to know who such voting members are?

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR LYTTELTON,
33 Brynston Square, W1.
June 27.

answered
questions in
Chiasso
ir, page 21

Compulsory plan for inflation accounting killed by ballot

Mr. First
change of compulsory in-
adjusted accounts being
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to the timescale laid
by Mr. Douglas Morpeth,
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chairmanship of the
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been made publicly.



Mr. Morpeth: Looks set to stay despite criticism.

and Mr. Morpeth looks set to stay.

Criticism of the leadership of the profession, which is seen not to have understood the feelings either of accountants in industry or of its own grass roots, is growing. Many senior accountants think that a different approach would have brought in a CCA standard with little difficulty.

The ASC says: "... substantial simplification and modification of ED 18 will be necessary before ASC can propose to the accountancy bodies a generally acceptable system of CCA for introduction as standard practice."

It also believes that further time will have to be given for appraisal of the changes and this will mean further delay in the introduction of any standard, which at present is fixed for major companies for accounts beginning in January next year.

The likely programme now is for the introduction of a supplementary statement based on the ASC's view that additional depreciation adjustments, which will be only a "provisional standard" and so will not be compulsory. The chances of any adjustments for monetary items seem slim, but could be brought in later.

There would then be a slow move towards a changeover completely to CCA accounts when they were generally accepted and understood.

The ASC says it has not altered its view that current cost accounting is urgently necessary, but ED 18 now seems to have been killed.

Fall in dollar hastened by doubts over US economy

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

A wave of heavy selling all over the world drove the value of the dollar down everywhere yesterday. There were heavy gains for most of the strong currencies and some of the weak ones, with the Japanese yen being the biggest gainer.

However, the Bank of England intervened on the market to keep the value of the pound steady at \$1.7210, taking more dollars into the already large reserves in the process. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 61.5 to 61.3 because other currencies were allowed to float up.

The selling wave started in Tokyo yesterday morning before Europe was even awake, with a fall of around 1 per cent in the United States currency's parity against the yen to 268.875. When the European markets opened they saw that there had been no action to slow the dollar's fall in Tokyo, assumed that there would be a similar inactivity in Europe and were proved right as Deutsche marks, Swiss francs and a rag-bag of other currencies gained ground.

In the afternoon, a new spurt to the selling pressure came from the release of figures in America which showed that leading indicators had fallen 0.2 per cent in May. This is the first such decline this year apart from the freak weather month of January, and it served to fuel doubts about United States performance.

The real force behind the decline, however, is that markets are now beginning to take seriously the agreement reached in Paris at the end of last week in which finance ministers pledged themselves to allow currency adjustments to bring about payments balance. The purpose of this is to allow strong currencies like the yen and mark to go up, thus reducing the heavy current account surpluses run by countries such as Japan and Germany.

That is exactly what is happening now, though the process is naturally more gradual than it might appear in the rather dry language of an official communiqué.

The agreement did not aim at the dollar as a currency which has to be devalued, but the prospect of partly settling means that some of the strong currencies go up the dollar automatically comes down.

Also beginning to exert an influence are the slight tremors of concern over the way in which the United States has drifted into current account deficit estimated at around \$12,000m (about £7,000m) for this year.

Nine Opec members decide to forgo oil price increase 'in interest of unity and solidarity'

By Roger Vielvoye
Energy Correspondent

Nine of the 11 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) who were due to raise their crude oil prices by 5 per cent from tomorrow confirmed in a statement from Vienna last night that they would forgo the increase.

Despite uncertainty over the attitude of the missing signatories—Libya and Iraq—it is still expected that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will make a reciprocal gesture and increase their prices by 5 per cent to bring them into line with the majority.

However, Saudi Arabia and the UAE may wait until the next Opec ministerial meeting in Stockholm on July 12 before clarifying their position. In their statement, the nine states—Iran, Kuwait, Qatar, Venezuela, Algeria, Nigeria, Gabon, Ecuador and Indonesia

—said they had agreed to forgo the increase "in the interest of unity and solidarity of Opec".

There was no explanation why Iraq and Libya had not signed or whether they would go ahead with an increase in price by 5 per cent from tomorrow.

Two-tier pricing of oil emerged from the last ministerial meeting in Doha in December. Saudi Arabia, backed by the UAE, rejected a 10 per cent rise from January 1 followed by a further 5 per cent on July 1. They introduced a 5 per cent increase.

At the same time Saudi Arabia removed a ceiling on its oil production. A number of international oil companies without major access to Saudi supplies will be glad to see the end of the present two-tiered system. British Petroleum and Shell were beginning to find difficult

the competing with Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil of California, who had access to nearly 10 million barrels of cheap crude.

The meeting in Stockholm will decide how long any unified pricing system they might emerge should last. It is expected this will be a minimum of six months while a number of members, including the Saudi Arabians, would like it to last a full year.

Restoration of pricing unity within the organisation would bring the total rise during 1977 to 9.2 per cent, although a stand by Iraq and Libya could bring this figure close to 10 per cent.

North Sea Oil: The price of North Sea oil may rise by only 10 cents a barrel in the wake of a planned 28 cents a barrel increase by Libya and Algeria in the third quarter of the year. And the influential Petroleum Intelligence Weekly says that

North Sea producers might have to settle for no increase or even a fall.

Since the new Algerian and Libyan increases will barely catch up with Nigerian prices, they provide little justification for a North Sea price rise, in the opinion of most oil buyers, the magazine says.

Frank Vogl writes from Washington: President Carlos Andres Pérez of Venezuela said yesterday that the decision to maintain oil prices demonstrated the unity of Opec and showed it was interested in ensuring a more just and balanced world economic order.

Britain does well in EEC trade

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Figures released yesterday show that the newer members of the EEC—Britain, Ireland and Denmark—have done well in export trading with the other members of the Community.

With just two days to go before practically all customs dues, between the Six and the three new three members disappear, the EEC Commission issued figures showing that Britain was beginning to reap the benefits of membership.

The figures were issued as the European heads of government met in London under the chairmanship of Mr. Callaghan. Between 1973—when the Community was enlarged—and 1976, Britain, Ireland and Denmark's exports to the Six rose by 75 per cent. Imports rose by only 50 per cent, the Commission said.

The easing of the remaining customs barriers is regarded as a landmark in the significance of the Commission. It has taken 20 years since the signing of the Treaty of Rome finally to achieve the Community customs union.

The customs union, or common market, is the foundation of the Community, the Commission says. "Without it there would be no Community. It provides the basic strength on which the rest of the Community's activities are built. The Commission's objective, in reviewing the end of the transition stage, is to seek to make this foundation even more secure."

The Commission, however, considers that there is much work that needs to be done, particularly to make the "man in the street" more aware of the Community.

One step being urged in this direction is an ending of frontier formalities for travellers within the EEC, even though this might mean a loss of revenue to some countries.

New shipbuilding chief calls for a concerted effort to beat problems

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Calls for a concerted effort at all levels of shipbuilding to overcome the difficulties the industry faces were made yesterday by Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman of British Shipbuilders, which will be formally vested tomorrow.

The formation of British Shipbuilders means the demise of the Shipbuilders and Repairers' National Association, which will be formally dissolved today. Admiral Griffin, in a message published in the first edition of the association's bulletin, said the new organisation had to ensure the survival of the industry and in the longer term

to build on the new base of state ownership.

British Shipbuilders, he said, would operate as a holding company whose policies—worked out in consultation with individual companies and trade unions—would aim to weld the industry into a single coordinated enterprise to face overseas competition on terms which would provide a better prospect for success than had been possible in the past.

Individual companies would act as profit centres responsible within broad guidelines for the conduct of their own affairs. The question of industrial democracy, he said, British Shipbuilders had a new opportunity to establish and foster the type

of relationship based on involvement and responsibility between employers and employees that was needed to ensure the future prosperity of the industry.

The SRNA said yesterday that a new association, the Shipbuilders and Repairers' National Association, had been formed to look after the interests of those companies which would not become part of the state concern.

In another development, the Department of Industry said that the Ship and Marine Requirements Technology Board would have been formed to promote research and development work following the formal vesting of British Shipbuilders.

State takes over more of Scott Lithgow

By Peter Hill

Moves to revise financing arrangements for state-owned Covna Shipbuilders and to include two companies of Scott Lithgow shipbuilders in British Shipbuilders, the new state corporation, were announced yesterday by the Government.

Mr. Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, said that the Government would pay, in financial support for Covna, the company's unpaid losses as of today amounting to some £6.6m.

The Government is to convert £14m of the outstanding loan to the company to shares, so that the Government equity investment will equal the direct assistance given to the company for acquisition of fixed assets.

The remainder of the loan outstanding, £9.25m, is to be converted to grant to meet past losses incurred by the company. Mr. Kaufman also said that the Government would pay, in financial support for Covna, the company's unpaid losses as of today amounting to some £6.6m.

Commons written reply, also stated that certain subsidiary companies of Scott Lithgow Ltd were listed in the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act as companies which would be vested in British Shipbuilders.

With the agreement of the Scott Lithgow group and British Shipbuilders, arrangements had been made for Scott Lithgow Ltd, which manages the shipbuilding business, and Scott Lithgow Drydocks, the group's repair operation, to be vested in the new state corporation in the same way as other companies listed in the Act.

Crédit move at Winefood

Corsico, Italy, June 29—

Winefood SPA, a mixed food processing and retailing concern, announced today that Mr. Hugo von der Crone, a joint director of Crédit Suisse, has joined the board of directors. As previously announced, Mr. Alfredo Nosedà, the Winefood president, has resigned, and his place has been taken by Mr. Alberto de Marchi.

Winefood had been a major investment outlet for Crédit Suisse, and one of the Italian companies where the large Swiss bank is believed to have lost money.

Directly or through its parent concern, Winefood Holding of Mauren, Liechtenstein, the company invested £3,100m (about £14.7m) through end-1976. There were also investments totalling £2,400m in Winefood subsidiaries, which number about a hundred.—AP-Dow Jones.

Aluminium prices raised by 6 per cent

British Aluminium today increased the price of its aluminium ingot and related products by an average of 6.3 per cent. This follows a £50 per tonne rise in ingot prices imposed by Alcan (UK) two weeks ago. The group will also increase the prices of semi-fabricated products by an average of 7.5 to 9.5 per cent.

Sir Monty to head inquiry on engineers

By Derek Harris

Sir Monty Finniston, former chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and noted for his independence, is to be chairman of the main government inquiry into the engineering profession.

Sir Monty, who first trained as a metallurgist and has been a leading figure in the engineering profession, has in principle, it is understood, accepted the offer of the job from Mr. Varley, Secretary of State for Industry.

It was Mr. Varley who ended Sir Monty's three years as BSC chairman when he decided not to renew Sir Monty's contract which ran out in September last year.

Since then Sir Monty has taken on a number of company directorships, including that of Sir Charles Clore's Sears Holdings.

Some details on the format of the inquiry have still to be sorted, but its terms of reference have now been established and an official announcement is now expected from Mr. Varley.

The inquiry, a wide-ranging one, will cover aspects of education and training as well as the status of professional engineers and the organization of the profession.

The question of the low status of many engineers, which has been an increasing anxiety for the profession, will inevitably raise questions on salary levels, a possible politically sensitive issue in the context of any current incomes policy.

Sir Monty, who will probably sit with a committee of around 15, is likely to take 18 months for this important assessment of what will be virtually the complement to the Government's industrial strategy.

Promoting industrial expansion and innovation has to be matched by a flow of engineering talent of the right kind in the right quantity.

These and similar problems have been under study by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the co-ordinating committee chaired by Sir Monty.

The British Association's report, expected in August, is likely to show that one problem is not so much a shortage of professional engineers but the quality of such personnel.

Status problems as much as those of salary are likely to be highlighted. There is also the question of whether to try to tap more fully other possible sources of top-level engineers.

100 working lost in May

Through strikes in May, the number of workers lost in the year to which is already more than 100,000. At this stage of just over 1.3 million jobs had been lost.

There are 244 strikes involving 100,000 workers in May, the total number of strikes in this year to 1,087, to figures in the Department of Employment.

ette also shows that time-worked in the April 23 was down a seasonally adjusted 15.78 million hours in the mid-March.

April it is estimated over 1.8 million workers on overtime, which is a week which was an estimated 35.3 workers in March.

UK anti-dumping task switches to Brussels

By Edward Townsend

The Department of Trade yesterday announced the results of six anti-dumping investigations, the last before responsibility for dealing with complaints about imports passes from the United Kingdom to the European Commission in Brussels.

In five cases, the department received satisfactory undertakings from the countries involved about future price levels; and in the last case, involving PVC leathercloth from Hungary and East Germany, no dumping was found.

Despite the switch to Brussels, the Department of Trade's anti-dumping unit is to continue in operation. Its staff of 18 is double the size of the European Commission anti-dumping section, and reflects the much larger number of complaints from British industries compared with their counterparts in other EEC countries.

It is expected that many United Kingdom industries will continue to make initial approaches to the department.

which will assist in the drawing up of formal applications to Brussels, although in some cases, such as the recent European protest about Japanese ball bearing imports where industries have strong inter-European ties, it will now be possible to make direct application to the Commission.

It was studying about 15 applications for anti-dumping action, and would be discussing with the industries concerned the question of submitting them to Brussels.

It has two outstanding cases that have been accepted for full investigation concerning special steels from Sweden and Austria, and in the latter case, a departmental team is still in Vienna completing a lengthy investigation.

The Commission takes over anti-dumping inquiries tomorrow when the transitional period of United Kingdom membership of the EEC ends. All products except those covered by the Treaty of Paris which established the European Coal and Steel Community, will be covered.

Bank faces winding-up risk after petition by prince

By Ray Maughan

The International Bank and Trust Company of the Middle East faces the threat of a compulsory winding-up.

This company, an off-the-peg bank, understood to have been acquired by its proprietor, Mr. Mohammed Perroo Khan, for £1250, agreed in the High Court yesterday not to accept any more deposits from the public to incur any further liabilities while a firm of chartered accountants prepares a financial report on the bank's solvency.

Registered in the West Indian island of St. Vincent, but operating mainly from its premises in

Curzon Street, London, the company agreed to suspend dividend-taking as a result of a petition presented on May 12 by Prince Fawzi Abdulatif, the United Arab Emirates ambassador to Zaire, who is a shareholder and is insolvent because it failed to clear his cheque for £4,000 in favour of London Hilton Jewellers. The court heard yesterday, however, that the bank's creditors' insolvency and alleges that Prince Fawzi's liabilities to the bank are greater than his funds.

The accountants' report will be prepared for the resumed hearing in three weeks time.

New effort for Ford peace at Dagenham

By Our Labour Editor

A new attempt will be made this morning to end the two-week unofficial strike by assembly plant workers at Ford's Dagenham plant. The strikers have been called to a mass meeting to hear new proposals on lay-off pay for men sent home because of disputes within the company.

Unions and management worked out the new package during a session lasting 16 hours after a mass meeting of the men yesterday broke up in disorder. The strike has cost the company production worth over £40 million at showroom value.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 187.10—0.25
The FT index: 456.2—2.4

Rises	Falls
Ayer Hitam 10p to 35p	Aberdeen Cons 5p to 7p
BPE Ind 6p to 17p	Blyvoors 7p to 28p
Hawker Sid 10p to 67p	Bulmer & Lumb 2p to 39p
Heath C. R. 7p to 63p	Creston Hedges 10p to 21p
Milford C. 2p to 9p	Creston Hedges 10p to 21p

Rises	Falls
Spear & Jackson 6p to 14p	Prop Hedges 5p to 27p
Surmah Valley 5p to 55p	Selection Tot 5p to 41p
Swan Hunter 7p to 11p	Stratrust 7p to 13p
Trust Eac Forte 6p to 15p	Shell 10p to 27p
Union Corp 5p to 21p	Sherrin Rock 7p to 18p

THE POUND	Bank
Australia \$ 1.50	buys 1.51
Austria Sch 35.25	1.52
Belgium Fr 64.25	61.25
Canada \$ 1.86	1.81
Denmark Kr 10.70	10.30
Finland Mk 7.20	6.95
France Fr 8.70	8.38
Germany Dm 4.25	4.09
Greece Dr 64.00	61.50
Hongkong \$ 8.40	7.95
Italy Lr 154.00	149.00
Japan Yn 490.00	465.00
Netherlands Gld 1.44	1.42
Norway Kr 9.44	9.08
Portugal Esc 68.50	65.00
S Africa Rd 1.97	1.84
Spain Ptas 127.50	113.50
Sweden Kr 7.88	7.53
Switzerland Fr 4.42	4.20
US \$ 1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr 32.25	30.25

Equities were in subdued mood. Cit-edged securities rallied in late trading. Sterling gained 7 pts to \$1.7210. The effective exchange rate index was at 61.3.

Gold was unchanged at \$142.625. SDR-S was 1.16488 on Wednesday. While SDR-S was 0.67652. Commodities: Coffee prices again fell sharply. Reuter's index was at 1,571.3 (previous 1,571.7). Reports, pages 23 and 25

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E RAKUSEN GROUP LIMITED

all year results to 31st December 1976 (unaudited)

	1976	1975
£	£	£
620,400	597,900	
profit	94,400	92,900
	68,600	71,700
fore taxation	25,800	21,200

for taxation has been made.

ie food division made the major contribution to the half its despite the continued burden of the Meadowood Road and the interruption of production resulting from the last November.

new tank plant has been installed in the factory at Wood Rise and is now operational and the current order is promising.

ie property divisions activities continue to be limited to ice developments.

flowing the Secretary of State's decision dated 12th May, limiting the purchase of the premises at Meadowood Road, on provision in the company's claim against the corporation and. The successful conclusion to these negotiations will have a beneficial effect on both the liquidity and profitability of

R. Minton, Chairman.

29th June, 1977.

Blundell-Permoglaze

Half year results

Extracts from the Interim Report by N. G. Bassett Smith, C.O., Chairman

	Half year (unaudited)	Full year
	30.4.77	31.12.76
£'000	£'000	£'000

Sales	7,510	6,847	14,390
Profit before Tax	311	378	1,059
Net Profit attributable to Group	143	177	476

*The Industrial Division started the year well and this trend has continued.
*The Decorative Division margins have been adversely affected by competitive conditions in a static market.
*The Export Division continues to progress, particularly in the Middle and Far East.

"Our underlying strength remains unimpaired... I expect to be reporting a further improvement in profits at the year end."

Blundell-Permoglaze Holdings Ltd.,
York House, 37 Queen Square,
London WC1N 3BL

Managers ask how to handle new wage deals

By Malcolm Brown

Managers' leaders yesterday urged the Government to give clear guidance to management and unions on how to deal with pay negotiations if there was any interval between the end of phase two and the start of another agreed phase of pay policy.

A delegation from the British Institute of Management, led by Mr Michael Edwards, a vice-chairman, told Mr Hesley, the Chancellor, that there was growing concern among companies due to start a new round of negotiations in the late summer.

They were afraid that if no agreement had been reached on a new phase of pay policy before the expiry of the present phase, they would be negotiating in an atmosphere of uncertainty.

The BIM team, which saw the Chancellor for 30 minutes, stressed the need to adhere to the rule that there should be 12 months between principal pay increases.

Mr Edwards said: "Our chief purpose was to discuss BIM's proposals for the next phase of pay policy, which are based on a recognition of the manager's deteriorating position in the pay structure of the country: on the need to ease the squeeze on differentials; and on the need to provide incentives within overall constraints."

The key fight, he said, was against inflation. To help win the fight it was essential to get the right mix of flexible pay policy and reductions in income tax. The last Budget had been a first step in the right direction and must be followed by consistent economic and fiscal policies.

"We reminded the Chancellor of BIM's view that there should be a long-term plan to reduce the total tax burden."

Bank favours cuts in national insurance levies

A fall in the real cost of labour, relative to its productivity, has created conditions favourable to the expansion of employment and output, says the latest *Willard Bank Review*. But it questions whether there is the demand to support the expansion given the slow growth in personal consumption. The fall in the public sector deficit and the prospects for foreign trade and domestic investment.

A case might be made, therefore, for stopping proposed spending cuts. The Review argues, however, to suggest that priority should go towards tax cuts (particularly National Insurance contributions).

Study sets out need for 680,000 jobs

By David Blake

Britain will have to find an extra 680,000 jobs between now and 1981 just to keep unemployment steady, according to a study by the Department of Employment. Another million jobs will be needed in the five years to 1985.

The latest issue of the *Employment Gazette* contains projections for the labour force to 1985. According to the estimates the total male labour force will go up from 15,931,000

this year to 16,164,000 in 1981 and the female work force will go up to 10,570,000 from 10,122,000.

An increasing labour force is likely to cause major problems to governments in the years ahead as they struggle to keep down unemployment.

There are five main factors: First and most important is the large number of 16-year-olds coming into the labour market from school, the result of the baby boom of the early 1960s.

The Government's programme of measures to help school leavers, announced yesterday, is a first step to try to grapple with this problem.

The second factor is that relatively few people will be retiring, since those coming up to retirement age were born during the First World War when birth rates were low.

The third force pushing up the number of people wanting work is the increasing tendency for married women to go out

to work, a function of the sharp fall in the birth rate, which means that fewer of them are out of the labour market.

This is combined with greater attraction towards work, now that job opportunities have improved.

Against this, the number of people staying on in full-time education is expected to go up, though this will to some extent be countered by a tendency for both men and women to go on working past retirement age.

Pirelli to start 'task force' experiment to aid output

From John Earle

Rome, June 29

Industrie Pirelli, the Italian manufacturing company of the Dunlop-Pirelli group, has reached agreement with the trade unions on an experimental introduction of "work areas" in which teams of workers will be free to rotate tasks among their members.

The experiment initially will affect about 3,000 workers making tyres and some other goods, but will not apply to the cable sector.

Management, anxious to introduce the new method, will study possible output levels with worker representatives in relation to plant capacity for each work area, and the management will set an overall piecework payment for the area.

It is hoped the new method will increase productivity and raise average individual earnings by about 40 lire (2.7p) per hour. Workers in each area will be divided in two levels of technical skill, inside which they may share tasks.

The agreement has been welcomed by the chemical union federation and by the Pirelli works council as introducing a more modern structure for the organization of labour which will give them a closer insight into the firm's production plans.

Providing funds for industry should not be taken merely to mean new money for development and capital investment, according to the first submission by the London Discount Market Association to the Wilson Committee. Some regard should also be paid to the flexible availability of funds for working capital provided by the use of bills of exchange.

Industry, the association suggests, has already been paying considerable attention to the possibilities presented by increased use of bills of exchange. The total liability of the discount houses in respect of commercial bills has increased from

Wilson team hear views by discount market on funding

By John Whitmore

The 1956 total of £152m, quoted in the Radcliffe report, to an end-1976 figure approaching £3,000m.

The association says that the main advantages of the bill of exchange to the customer are that the cost is generally competitive with bank overdrafts, that the financing cost of a transaction can be calculated at the outset, that bills can be used to allow a company to make greater use of overdraft facilities, that bills can be useful when other sources of finance are temporarily hard to come by, and that a bill is a legal document for which the consequences of default are clearly defined.

Housebuilders yesterday gave a "cautious qualified welcome" to the Government's housing policy review, published on Tuesday.

Mr Tony Cavanaugh, president of the Builders' Federation, said that he was pleased to see that the Government had again proclaimed its support for ownership.

Builders, he said, would particularly welcome the assistance proposed for first-time buyers, but the effect, spread over the whole industry, would be "pretty marginal", and was in any case unlikely to take effect for two or three years.

One disappointment was that there was no important shift in financial resources from the public to the private sector.

"We feel that a small step has been made in the right direction", Mr Cavanaugh said, "but regret that the opportunity has not been taken for a larger step."

Speaking in York last night, Mr Peter Morley, president of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, said: "We particularly welcome the proposals to assist first-time buyers, but the effect, spread over the whole industry, would be 'pretty marginal', and was in any case unlikely to take effect for two or three years."

The continuation of tax relief on mortgage interest and option-mortgage subsidy is also to be welcomed, but we would have wished to see a more positive line taken on increasing the £25,000 limit on house purchase loans admissible for tax relief."

Secondly your column said: "It is still not clear that Rolls has the money both to finance an expanding Fodens and

develop its own new car." Here, I mean, I am referring you to the letter of May 30 in which we said: "The directors are of the opinion that, taking into account the bank and other facilities available, the enlarged RRM group will have adequate working capital for its present requirements."

In relation to Fodens, the directors have relied solely on published information in forming this assessment. I am sure you would not wish to imply that these statements are made lightly, or that, in making them, we have not made ample allowance for the right financial circumstances admitted to exist at Fodens.

Yours faithfully, J. J. FRASER, Chairman, Rolls-Royce Motors, 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT, June 29.

From Mr I. J. Fraser, Sir, I read with concern your market report comment on June 28 in which you made two statements which seemed to me unjustified.

The first was that: "Fodens could well reject Rolls-Royce Motors formal share offer, which, as expected, said nothing about how Rolls is faring." This is not so. Our offer document of May 30 spoke of current trading and included the statement: "Profits for the year to date are ahead of those for the equivalent period in 1976."

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Unions' plea on chemicals investment

By Peter Hill

Industrial Correspondent

Top government ministers will be told today that there is a crisis of confidence developing in Britain's petrochemical industry. Trade union leaders from the industry are to meet Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, and Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, to discuss what they consider to be a shortfall in effective United Kingdom investment in petrochemicals.

There has been considerable concern among union leaders over ICI's decision to develop a £240m chemicals complex in north Germany.

Mr David Warburton, national officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and chairman of the Joint Chemical Trades Union Committee, said last night that the unions were concerned with the lack of firm commitment by industry to inject sufficient funds to ensure that North Sea oil resources were used not only for the oil companies but for the nation.

"There is a crisis of confidence developing because companies do not seem anxious to honour the obligations we previously agreed," he said.

"This is the conflict of interest: we support North Sea oil exploitation for the sake of our own industries and jobs; major oil companies exploit it for profits," he added.

He suggested that to ensure the transfer of oil benefits to United Kingdom industries, tax concessions and investment aid could be withdrawn from companies whose aim was to benefit themselves and not the country.

Yesterday the Chemical Industries Association underlined the contribution that industry was making to the economy and said that total sales by the industry amounted to an estimated £11,000m last year.

The strike began 10 days ago after the suspension of a man for "extreme carelessness", and union opposition to his downgrading.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The focus on national quality

From Mr N. T. Burgess

Sir, A letter from Mr Weinberg in your issue of June 23 refers to the economics of quality as it concerns manufacturers in this country and warns that measures may not be going in the right direction.

Indeed, the attention now being focused on quality by customers (both home and abroad) is long overdue and in general the improvement in quality in many sectors of industry has a direct bearing on the efforts of several enthusiasts which stem from the National Quality Year organized in 1966-67, which your correspondent well remembers.

There are bound to be occasions when well-mentioned techniques are misapplied, but on the credit side it should be recognized that without the attention now being given to quality assurance by many United Kingdom suppliers we should be denied access to world markets for equipment in rewarding areas such as defence, nuclear power, etc. Indeed, there are many British manufacturers who have invested many thousands of pounds in quality assurance to obtain orders, particularly from the United States, that would otherwise be denied to them.

It is wrong to generalize in such matters and, while profitability remains a prime objective of quality control, society

now demands that the safety of equipment still prefers to lord it with the profits instead of putting its house in order. North Sea oil notwithstanding.

And the other side of this particular coin is that both Italy, France and Denmark, countries with relatively weak currencies, have been able to narrow their trade gaps with Germany. Italy was virtually in balance in the first four months of 1977, as against being in the red to the tune of DM600m in the corresponding period of 1976.

In the case of France Germany's surplus with strong DM200m to DM230m, while Denmark managed a reduction from DM1,200m to DM900m.

Could it be that the Germans are not all that efficient in imposing "their" will on what Professors Lord Kaldor and Nield describe as their "victims"?

I am writing these lines without access to the detailed trade accounts. It could be (though not very likely) that special factors account for all the figures given above. But even then the view put forward in this letter would be no less valid than the sweeping assertions of the two Cambridge professors.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN SCHATTMANN, 65c Wigmore Street, London W1H 9LG, June 18.

Who is out of step in the EEC?

Imports by pursuing appropriate economic policies at home, without the double-edged imposition of import controls. There is some highly relevant information in the latest monthly report of Germany's central bank released over the weekend illustrating this point.

All German exports from January to April, 1977, increased by almost 2 per cent over the preceding four months period, or 9 per cent over the corresponding period of 1976. But there have been some significant changes. Some of Germany's neighbours who, last year had to cope with strong inflationary pressure, but now are doing better, have managed to cut back on their imports from Germany.

I am tabulating the information below. The first column represents an increase/decrease of the first four months 1977 over 1976. The second is the latest inflation rate (12 months to April, 1977).

Denmark -2.0 9.4
Ireland +2.5 21.0 (March)
France +4.3 9.5
Netherlands +1.4 6.5
US +1.4 6.8
Austria +1.8 5.2
UK +2.0 17.5

Sources: Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank June 1977, p 32; OECD.

From which a somewhat critical observer on the Continent (of whom there exist a

few!) might conclude that this country still prefers to lord it with the profits instead of putting its house in order. North Sea oil notwithstanding.

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Fodens: Rolls-Royce has 'adequate capital'

From Mr I. J. Fraser

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Record Profits top £4m
Orders at High Level

Specialist engineering group supplying wide range of industries

1977 March 1976
Turnover £40m £32m up by 24%
Pre-tax Profit £4.14m £3m up by 37%
Earnings per Share 7.8p 5.9p up by 32%
Total net Dividend 3.715p 3.386p

GEI INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

**Record Profits top £4m
Orders at High Level**

Specialist engineering group supplying wide range of industries

	1977 March	1976	
Turnover	£40m	£32m	up by 24%
Pre-tax Profit	£4.14m	£3m	up by 37%
Earnings per Share	7.8p	5.9p	up by 32%
Total net Dividend	3.715p	3.386p	

Chairman Mr. Thomas Kenny FCA reports:

- * Group's seventh successive record year. Profits more than trebled in four years.
- * Over £2 million spent on new buildings and machinery, making £7m in five years. Further substantial expenditure planned.
- * Strong financial condition, with net cash resources of over £4 million.
- * Direct exports increased by 23% - direct and indirect exports estimated to be over 50% of turnover.
- * Order books at higher level than for some time - and trend continues.

Principal members of the Group

Steel Stampings
Rims and wheels for commercial vehicle and earthmoving machinery and heavy steel pressings.
Air receivers, pressure vessels and tanks.
Gear wheels and gear cutting.
Tanks, cab bodies and sheet metal fabrications.
Bright bar and wire.
Stainless steel wire.
Automatic turned parts and small pressings.

Drury Engineering
Barlow & Chidlaw
Musgrove & Green
Midland Bright Drawn Steel
A. E. Godrich & Son
Hemmings
M.C.L. & Repetition
The Castle Engineering Co. (Nottingham)
Allspeeds
Andrew Denholm
Auto Wrappers (Norwich)
Ayers & Grimshaw
Drum Closures

Purdy Machinery
N.V. Machines Collectie
S.A. Belgium
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Services and equipment
Automatic turned parts.
Variable speed drives, hydraulic rams and pumps.
Bakery ovens.
Wrapping and packaging machines.
Collating and parceling machinery, precision engineering.
Closing rings for steel and polythene drums, wood and steel wire racks.
Labelling and filling machines, small gears and specialised optical equipment.
Mixing equipment and gear cutting sharpening machines.
Heat exchangers, pressure vessels.

Copies of the report and accounts are available from the Secretary, GEI International Limited, West Street, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 3TA.

Electra Investment Trust

LIMITED

- Annual compound increase of 11½% in earnings and 14¾% in dividends over 10 years
- Planned gradual change of emphasis in 'listed' portfolio

In his annual statement, Mr. Alastair F. Roger, the Chairman, commenting on the past year's performance said "... as stockholders are aware, your Board considers the maintenance of growth in income to be of the utmost importance. It is pleasing, therefore, to be able to report an increase in available earnings of 11½% in 1976, compared with the equivalent of 3.6p per stock unit for the year, paid last year, to 4.3p per stock unit, an increase of 19.4%. The increase in earnings this year follows the year ended 31st March 1976, during which earnings increased by 27%. The 10-year record to 31st March 1977, shows an increase in earnings of 11½% per annum compound and in dividends paid of 14¾% per annum compound."

The Future

"Since the year end, corporate activity has increased and as a result, we are now seeing more opportunities for investment in unlisted companies. However, it is necessary to sound a warning note. Minority investments in unlisted companies are in themselves risky. None the less, such propositions have a way of catching the imagination of Fund Managers and, therefore, there is currently a situation arising where too much money is chasing too few high quality investments. Great care, therefore, must be exercised so that investments in unlisted companies are not made on less favourable terms than can be obtained by investing in equivalent sized listed companies."

"We are closely watching this situation, but remain optimistic that good opportunities will arise to invest in the unlisted sector. In addition, we believe that there may be opportunities over the next year or two where the controlling shareholders of listed companies may wish to turn their companies back into unlisted companies and seek our assistance in doing this. There are signs that some are already wishing to undertake this exercise. As far as the listed portion of the portfolio is concerned, shortly before the end of the year under review some profits were taken in United Kingdom equities following the substantial rise in the market since October 1976 and, as a result, the Balance Sheet shows a more liquid position than twelve months ago."

Long Term Strategy

"It is your Board's intention gradually to change the investment emphasis of the Company's listed portfolio. At present this part of

the portfolio comprises, in the majority, investments in companies which are leaders of their sectors. It is felt that the emphasis in this portion should be changed to less well recognised investments. This gradual change of policy is being made because the Board feels that investment opportunities exist in those companies which have not yet established themselves as market leaders. Indeed, many of your Company's most successful investments in the past have resulted from supporting companies whose potential was not realised by the market as a whole. We will concentrate through our very wide range of contacts, both at home and overseas, on finding new and interesting investment possibilities. These potential investments, whether listed or unlisted, will be looked at with particular reference both to their current yield and their ability to increase their dividend payments.

"Your Board remains confident that over the coming years an investment in your Company will prove sound and achieve a growth in both income and capital."

Summary of Results		
	1976/77	1975/76
Revenue available for Ordinary Stockholders	£2,293,337	£1,926,560
Earnings per stock unit of 25p	4.689p	3.990p
Dividend per stock unit of 25p	4.30p	3.60p
31st March		
Investments at Valuation	£65,241,531	£64,550,256
Net assets	£60,815,987	£58,322,373
Net asset value per stock unit of 25p	124.2p	118.2p
Net assets after deduction of prior charges at market value	£61,878,949	£59,480,915
Net asset value per stock unit of 25p after deduction of prior charges at market value	126.3p	121.2p

AN ELECTRA HOUSE COMPANY



The Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 1977 can be obtained from the Secretaries: Electra Group Services Limited, Electra House, Temple Place, Victoria Embankment, London WC2R 3HP

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Beaverbrook and the non-voting issue

The debate over non-voting shares is slowly dying a natural death. One of the more prominent exponents of the writing on the wall from the companies Bill, which would have out-naked capital structures in the same way as the United States, is and South Africa, or were forced to be enfranchised by the need for fresh money from shareholders (as of Rank and Lyons, for example), Beaverbrook has again stirred the hornet's nest.

Lyons' strategy is to concentrate hard on getting a better performance out of the remaining businesses—food manufacture and distribution. But that will only nibble at the debt mountain. Reducing debt by £10m or even £20m a year necessarily means a long haul, and that of course assumes there will be no more upsets of a less conventional kind.

The aim apparently is to reduce gearing to around 50 per cent over the next four years from its present level of about 80 per cent. Allowing for this timescale the fact that the shares look superficially attractive on the basis of a p/e ratio of 51 is irrelevant. The fact is that there are comparable income stocks to be found in the food sector among companies unaffected by the balance sheet problems which Lyons has to shoulder following its ill-fated attempt to become a major international foods company.

year—interest rates should remain at their present levels.

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Hambros New areas of growth

Hambros incurred no exceptional losses on its shipping loans last year: but the group has felt it proper to step up its specific provisions against shipping debts, and with the tanker crisis likely to last until well into the 1980s, we may not have heard the end of that saga.

However, it is necessary to keep the group's involvement in perspective: though Hambros provides no breakdown, shipping loans are unlikely much to exceed 10 per cent of the banking subsidiary's total advances of £531m. Much more pertinent for shareholders is the question of which other areas of operation will provide the group with growth.

It isn't, on the face of it, going to be the traditional banking business, for total advances increased by only 10 per cent last



Mr. Jocelyn Hambro, chairman of Hambros: sluggish demand for advances.

problems, however, are more deep than that. For there is no ready way of calculating the true worth of rights even where a two-way split of the shares exists in the first place.

cent enfranchisement cases have to offer the holders of the voting sweeter of between 5 and 10 per cent yield these rights, a far cry from the 10 per cent bonus for instant that Spencer treated its voting holders years ago.

moment, the Panel appears happy to take the advice of Rothschild's advisers to Beaverbrook share on what the premium should be, the voting shares up around the 1 there is no doubt that the market on a handsome premium whatever

he Panel must avoid, however, is any scheme simply for the expediency.

5

5-year action

its share price has been strong on the view that the trading would be better than indicated in the fact that the dividend would be paid. Both expectations turn out to be wrong: operating profits, in fact, are third higher at £38.3m though the £4.3m against £14.7m from busi-ness sold.

as enough to see the shares. 5p yesterday at 95p where the yield is 5.2. However, those who see Lyons' to hold for recovery on a year to view are missing the real point, course, is that trading profits of satisfactory though they are, are impact on Lyons' balance sheet rowings of some £240m remain as an adequate reminder of the des-iod from which the group has only d to emerge.

charges, reflecting higher rates set of the year to April and the wicking overseas borrowings into expensive sterling loans, are up to £22.4m. This and exceptional £3.8m above the line and £9.5m meant an overall reduction of services.

ys it has taken a final bite on the cleared the decks. This year there no exceptional debits—most of 1976-77 are due to currency adjust- write-offs in South Africa where business turned out to be the last overturned.

r, while foreign debt has now ced (overseas assets are now in oreign borrowings), sterling looks nd—hopefully for most of this

Unanswered questions in the Chiasso affair

The ability to assimilate bad news must rank as one of the more remarkable human qualities. For how else can one explain the enthusiastic applause that greeted a Credit Suisse shareholder at last Friday's extraordinary general meeting in Zurich as he rounded off his speech with the words "Viva Credit Suisse"?

The meeting, which was extraordinary both in name and in nature, was called to discuss the losses arising from the activities of the management of the bank's branch in Chiasso. As is progressed in an overheated exhibition hall in the Zurich suburb of Oerlikon, it was easy to forget that the scandal, which had unfolded over the previous 10 weeks, is the most serious to hit Swiss banking since the Second World War, if not in living memory.

The Credit Suisse, which is the oldest and proudest of the big Swiss banks, faces losses that have been estimated at about 1,000m Swiss francs (£133m). The affair has brought into question the role of Swiss banking in international finance, usually in contravention of their regulations.

It has shown Swiss banking's internal and external controls to be inadequate. It has even become a political issue in a fundamentally non-political nation.

The first indication of what Dr. Oswald Aeppli, Credit Suisse's chairman, described last Friday as the "criminal act of a small clique" came in the evening of April 14.

With senses numbed by subsequent revelations, it is difficult to recall the shock and surprise caused by the first disclosures. The Credit Suisse, a by-word for solidity and conservatism in Swiss banking, announced that it faced "a considerable loss" because a large foreign customer of its Chiasso branch—an unnamed financial holding company—was in difficulties.

side the Credit Suisse balance sheet to Texon, but at the same time issued guarantees in the name of Credit Suisse to cover the deposits.

Mr. Kuhmeier and two colleagues were soon placed in investigative custody. Shortly

ward to an unchanged dividend for this year.

Much has still to be explained about Texon—starting with the question of who owned it. The banking commission has said that Mr. Kuhmeier founded it. Dr. Aeppli said last week that according to Messrs. Diaspoli and Nosedà, it belonged to customers of the Chiasso law firm. Their identity remains a mystery.

The motivation behind Mr. Kuhmeier's action is quite unclear. Also unanswered are allegations brought by shareholders last week that his activities were the subject of coffee house gossip in Chiasso from the early 1970s.

The fact that the very top management of the Union Bank of Switzerland warned first Dr. Wuffli in January, 1976, and then Mr. Schulthess in April of that year about Kuhmeier, is a possible indicator as to how far the gossip had spread by that time.

Other nagging doubts concern the Molini-Cortina affair, which lay behind Mr. Demieville's resignation. Yet nobody asked whether there are the seeds of another Chiasso here.

Assuming that there are no further shocks on the way, it is possible to draw up an interim assessment of the implications of the affair for the Credit Suisse. Because of the drain on its reserves, the bank seems set for a period of slower growth and faces a long slog to reestablish its once unimpeachable reputation.

Peter Norman describes the progress of the scandal which has shaken the Swiss banking community

afterwards three Chiasso-based lawyers of the company were charged.

The lawyers, Messrs. Alfredo Nosedà, Elbio Gada and Alessandro Villa, were members of the board of Texon and had worked for many years from offices in the same building as Credit Suisse Chiasso, 300 yards from the Swiss-Italian border.

As the affair unfolded and the vast sums of money involved came to light, speculation grew over whether or not the scandal extended beyond the southern Swiss canton of the Tessin. The fact that the three lawyers together with the arrested personnel of Credit Suisse Chiasso had sat on the boards of other companies in the north Swiss cantons of Zug, Schwyz, Chur, Davos and Glarus threw up the question whether or not Credit Suisse's Zurich headquarters had been involved, or at least had an inkling of Texon's activities.

Long-term implications

The implications for Switzerland as a financial centre are less easy to guess. Reforms and tighter controls are being put into effect, but despite political unrest on the left, the imposition of far-reaching structural changes on the banking system from above seems as remote as ever. Banking secrecy and numbered accounts will survive Credit Suisse.

It is not possible to calculate the effects on the wealthy foreign clientele whose patronage has given banking in Switzerland the same overall economic importance as the motor industry in West Germany and has helped the country to enjoy the highest level of gross national product per head of any country in Europe.

In the final analysis it is the reaction of the Swiss Banks' foreign clients that will determine whether 1977 goes down as a black year only for Credit Suisse or conceivably as a turning point in the broader history of Switzerland as one of the world's leading financial centres.

Inquiries by the authorities

The problem had been kept secret by the bank's management for a lengthy period. Those responsible, whom the Credit Suisse accused of a "massive" dereliction of duty, had been suspended.

Although Dr. Heinz Wuffli, the then chief general manager, volunteered that about 250m francs were at risk, the initial disclosures begged many questions.

After the first announcement other bodies began to investigate. The Swiss banking commission, the National Bank, the federal tax authorities, the public prosecutor for the Canton of Zurich, and even the principal of Liechtenstein began to look into the tangled tale of Credit Suisse Chiasso.

It has since emerged that Mr. Ernest Kuhmeier, the manager of the Chiasso branch, channelled funds worth 2,170m Swiss francs, placed with him by a largely Italian clientele, to a Liechtenstein-based holding company called Texon-Finanzanstalt. Texon, which was founded in 1961 and until January this year was capitalised at a modest 50,000 francs, invested the funds in various ventures, most of them in Italy.

Credit Suisse now has claims against Texon of 1,700m francs, against which stand assets with a book value of 1,750m, which in the words of Dr. Aeppli are undoubtedly overvalued.

The funds were placed with Mr. Kuhmeier and his associates on a fiduciary basis. Under normal circumstances they would have been invested by the Credit Suisse on the European market with first class addresses at the customer's risk.

Instead, Mr. Kuhmeier not only channelled the funds out

Economic notebook

All a question of timing

The prospects for pay next year now depend crucially on time-tables. The last day on which the Chancellor can spell out the terms of any amendments he wants to make to the Finance Bill is July 14, the day after his probable next meeting with the TUC Economic Committee.

That meeting is therefore crucial to the presentation of any agreement which may emerge from talks between the Government and unions.

He needs some sort of agreement to give the "conditional" 2p cut in income tax, which in practice he must give, with just a little extra available as a "sweetener".

The sort of thing which the Chancellor is going to want is now fairly clear and it is a much less ambitious shopping list than seemed likely earlier in the year. At Budget time the impression, rightly or wrongly, was that he was searching for a policy similar in form to the present one, with just a little flexibility on top to grease the wheels: now we know that what is going to emerge will be very different.

It is very lucky the unions will agree to spell out some kind of figure as a guideline of the amount around which settlements should cluster, probably of the order of 5 per cent: if he is not, then there will be some vague undertaking that everyone will act responsibly.

If that happens, the Government will probably feel that it has stepped in with the sort of guidelines which the unions have been unable to provide. It will mean, in practice, that the brunt of the policy will have to be borne by pay settlements in the public sector, and that it will be necessary for the Government to get a settlement under its belt which reinforces its claim that the "normal expectation" it has spelt out really is a plausible figure quite early in the pay round.

This is what makes the timetable for settlements so vital. As the table shows, they are spread very unevenly throughout the pay year and are heavily biased towards the end.

There are some tricky cases, such as the police and the nurses, who could prove embarrassing; but the first big crunch comes in the autumn with the local authority manual workers and the health service ancillary employees. (In the private sector the deal that matters is with the Ford workers.)

There is only one point that the unions will be told that whether or not a figure has been agreed by them it will be applied by the Government in its negotia-

THE SETTLEMENT TIMETABLE

Month	Number of employees (000s)	Settlement %	Settlement (£m)
Aug	150	1.5	1.5
Sept	305	4.5	4.6
Oct	470	9.2	9.4
Nov	1,585	2.5	25.6
Dec	2,280	3.0	30.2
Jan	1,595	4.5	46.4
Feb	795	5.7	54.5
March	370	5.7	58.2
April	650	6.8	64.8
May	425	6.8	69.2
June	1,685	8.0	86.3
July	1,255	9.85	100.0

Calculations based on Department of Employment statistics. * Based on 1976 figures.

tions for these public sector employees; and at the worst that cash limits will be used to make sure that the settlement is not above the guidelines.

If the settlement for these workers fits into the Government's guidelines, then the prospect of others doing so is well obviously improves. This is all the more so since, if the 12-month rule holds, those who settle later on in the pay year will in any case come to their negotiations with a longer period of falling inflation since they last got a rise than those who negotiate early in the year.

That will, of course, be even more true if Mr. Healey brings in an autumn budget tax cuts. If he is true to the term of past Chancellors any action

would be concentrated on indirect—as opposed to direct—taxation, so that it would tend to reduce prices, thus giving a further increase to real disposable income without requiring an increase in wages.

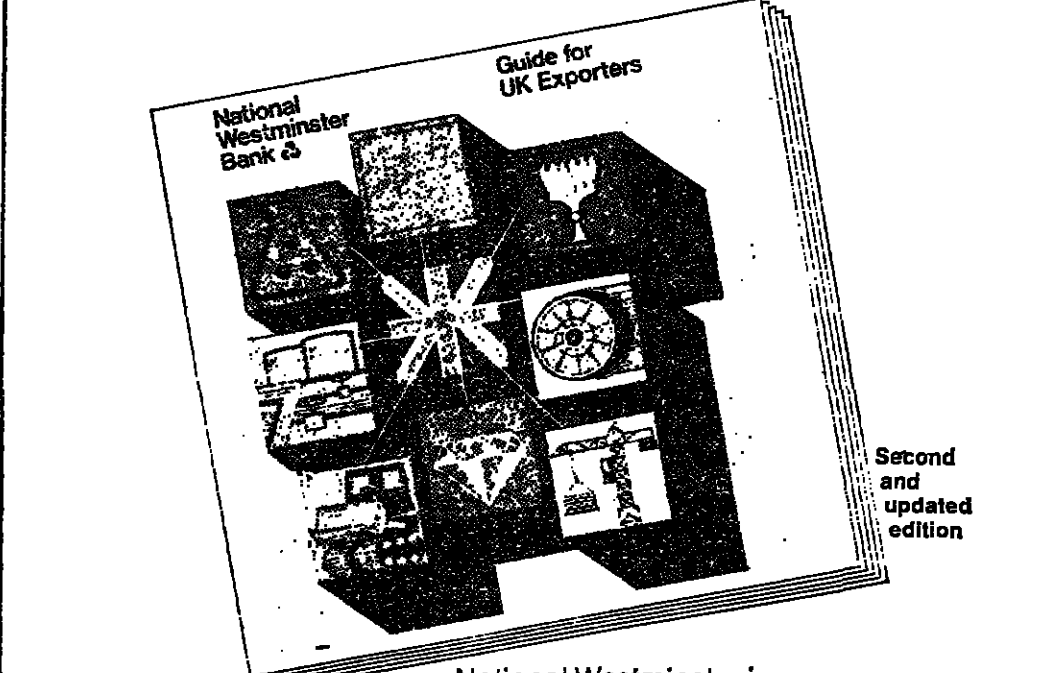
And by April next year the Chancellor might be in a position to bring in another general increase of measures with the promise of a really sharp increase in living standards.

That is how it might turn out if all goes well, but almost certainly it will not proceed exactly like that. Some people will try to breach the 12-month rule and if they get away with it others will follow (it is interesting, though, that the two exceptions allowed are pensions and productivity agreements, both of which benefit the miners).

Looking at the likely outcome, it is hard to avoid concluding that at the end of the day the out-turn for wages during the next year will be above the Chancellor's 10 per cent target, but probably not wildly above, with something like 15 per cent as the most probable figure.

David Blake

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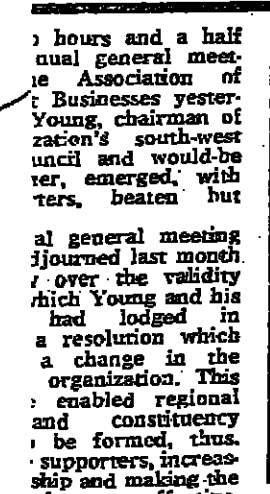
Name _____ Position _____

Company _____

Address _____

National Westminster Bank

Business Diary: Small is beautiful • BIA's Haslam



Photograph: Bill Warnum.

Down but possibly not out: Derek Young yesterday.

Ormonston, a supporter of the south-west philosophy) and (in Dauris) and he was willing to uphold after yesterday and at first talk to us about the the discussions.

never, de Laszlo for his technical statement saying membership of the executive South-west inspired defeated by 306.

The effect of the Laszlo said, would to make regional branches virtually and turn the into a federated

Executive council has (one of those who re-elected was John



Photograph: Bill Warnum.

parts of the country and believe that the constituency format provides the best base for effective parliamentary lobbying and increasing membership. The south-west regional council is to meet next week, so we may be hearing of Young and Co again.

Reader Trevor Turner saw a life rendered idle by the strike on which he writes "Miss Otis regrets". He was tempted to add: "She's unable to lift today."

Surprisingly, Geoffrey Haslam, who today becomes chairman of the British Insurance Association, is the first "Man from the Pru" ever to hold the post.

On the other hand, it cannot just be coincidence that the chief executive of a company which more than any other has spread the benefits of insurance throughout all sections of the population should lead the industry's trade association, at a time when the industry itself is more firmly in the political spotlight than ever before.

Haslam, who succeeds Bill Harris, chief general manager of Phoenix Assurance, sees his big job during the next 12 months to make the public understand more about the work insurance companies do. This, in turn, he believes, might counter the dual threats of nationalisation, now Labour Party policy, and governmental direction of policyholders' funds.

"By training I come from a very large life office, which has a large contact with the public,

so perhaps I am very conscious of public attitudes and the need to try to explain, and the time we do it," he said.

Had it not been for the decline in the wool industry during the thirties, the insurance business and Haslam might not have met. In those days he was working in the London office of his family's Yorkshire wool firm. The office was closed and he followed a brother into the Pru.

His experience of a contracting industry has not affected his views on the use of policyholders' money for social causes, which, he says, should be funded by central government.

"I don't like direction of any kind," he said. "It implies that funds are being channelled into areas which would not otherwise command funds."

"Why should policyholders' funds, for instance, be used for shunt clearance or other housing policies? The policyholders could put money into government stocks instead and get a commercial return instead of investing in an institution where part of its money has been siphoned off into an unattractive field."

There will be one regrettable absence when Roy Hattersley announces the names of the new Price Commission shortly. Unless there is some last-minute development there will be no member from food retailing.

Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has always said that he wanted a food retailer, but nobody has come up with a can-

didate acceptable to all hands. The retailers themselves cannot agree on a candidate because the company wants to have details of its net margins known to a competitor.

Tesco's split with Green Shield and the subsequent High Street war only hardened the retailers' resolve. "It's our man or nobody else."

Nor can Hattersley's Department of Prices or the retailers agree on a recently retired candidate whom they might approach.

The Yorkshire company, which sells prayer mats to Mecca, yesterday won the Incredible Export Award, mentioned by us last Thursday.

John Newhill, director and general manager of Omega Fabrics formed 18 months ago in Halifax and employing 10 people, heard that Beirut, the traditional source of the mats, had "dried up" because of the civil war.

He said yesterday: "I copied an illustration from a book at the local library. A couple of days later half a dozen samples were on their way to Mecca." The orders rolled in and the firm sold 74,000.

The award is sponsored by Export Times and Vladimir Vodka. David Copp, marketing manager of the Vodka company, has set himself his own incredible export target—to sell vodka in Moscow for the 1980 Olympic Games.

Reader Ms B. Franklin reports seeing an exhilaration in the window of a limousine reading: "Fellow directors: don't be cowed by Bullock!"

Appointments Vacant also on page 13

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M. H. Pattinson, Senior Geophysicist

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of SCANTON'S LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: Creditors 15th July 1977, at Room 220, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.00 o'clock.
H. W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of O.E.R. LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: Creditors 15th July 1977, at Room 220, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.00 o'clock.
H. W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of KIRKBY INVESTMENTS LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: Creditors 15th July 1977, at Room 220, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.00 o'clock.
H. W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

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Applications are invited for a Lectureship for Part II of the Bar Examination, from 1st October 1977. Good law degree is required and the Bar qualification is an added advantage. Salary within the scales (including pension) of £2,550 to £3,150 p.a. plus 10% for pension. Applications should be received not later than 15th July 1977, by the Administrative Officer (H.O.), 10, W.C.1, 01-404 7201, or W.C.2, 01-404 7201.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of KIRKBY INVESTMENTS LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: Creditors 15th July 1977, at Room 220, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.00 o'clock.
H. W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Rhodesia FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Applications are invited for appointment to SENIOR LECTURESHIP/IN-DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY.

Graduates are sought with training and/or research experience in chemistry to fill posts in the Department of Chemistry and to teach in the fields of organic, inorganic, physical and analytical chemistry. Research interests in organic chemistry, physical chemistry and analytical chemistry are desirable. Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, a list of references, and a statement of their research interests. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Rhodesia, P.O. Box 20, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

BIOCHEMISTRY AND AGRICULTURE

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Biochemistry and Agriculture. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and research in the field of biochemistry and agriculture. Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, a list of references, and a statement of their research interests. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Rhodesia, P.O. Box 20, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

ANIMAL NUTRITION

Candidates should have a degree or an equivalent qualification in a relevant subject; those without such a qualification must have appropriate knowledge or experience. Interest in the history of European painting desirable.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and research in the field of soil chemistry. Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, a list of references, and a statement of their research interests. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Rhodesia, P.O. Box 20, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 21 July 1977) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 88551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote G(13)382.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of London THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL WORK
Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Social Work. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and research in the field of social work. Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, a list of references, and a statement of their research interests. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of London, P.O. Box 20, London, W.C.1.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

ALANGLATE Legal Staff. The specialist legal consultants to the profession offer a confidential service to lawyers and solicitors in all legal matters. For appointment or telephone, contact: Alan Glate, 10, W.C.1, 01-404 7201, or W.C.2, 01-404 7201.

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NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of the Times Newspapers Limited, of which are available on request.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of SCANTON'S LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: Creditors 15th July 1977, at Room 220, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
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H. W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of O.E.R. LIMITED, a company limited by shares. Notice of the winding-up order made 9th May 1977.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 9th May 1977.
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Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial & General—Temping Times

NON-SECRETARIAL

PUBLISHER WISHING TO EXPAND SALES DEPARTMENT REQUIRES SENIOR ASSISTANT

He/she will be involved in a wide range of activities from analysing sales patterns to promotion of new books and liaison with book shops. Versatility and adaptability more important than previous experience. Salary in the region of £3,000. Write with details to Managing Director, S.C.M. Press Ltd., 58 Bloomsbury St., London, WC1B 3JX.

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RECEPTIONIST T.V. PRODUCTION CO.

Required: a confident young person with a good knowledge of the television industry and a good knowledge of the production process. Must be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: T.V. PRODUCTION CO., 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARIAL

TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE

Keep cool, don't drift into just any job without first finding out what the possibilities are. We have a number of secretarial vacancies in the City and in the Home Counties. We are looking for people who are confident, efficient and who will be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU, 21 BROMPTON ARCADE, BROMPTON, LONDON, W.14 9JL.

PRIVATE NURSING

Educated and thoroughly professional nurses needed for private patients in London. Full and part-time vacancies. Fees up to £25 per day or night. Write to: RELIANCE NURSING SERVICE, 49 GREAT ORMOND ST., WC1N 3JX.

GO WEST PERSONAL ASSISTANT, UP TO £4,000

Senior Buyer of a well-known Retail Chain in Exeter is looking for a personal assistant to help with the buying of goods. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the retail industry. Salary up to £4,000 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: GO WEST, 173 New Bond Street, W.1.

COMPAGNIE FRANCAISE DES PETROLES

Payment of dividends NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on 21st July 1977, has set the dividend for 1977 at 10% of the nominal value of the shares, payable on 15th August 1977. The dividend is payable in cash or by cheque. Shareholders may also elect to have their shares repurchased. Write to: COMPAGNIE FRANCAISE DES PETROLES, 173 New Bond Street, W.1.

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TREASURE TROVE

Find the gems of interest in this varied position, involving a wide range of activities from analysing sales patterns to promotion of new books and liaison with book shops. Versatility and adaptability more important than previous experience. Salary in the region of £3,000. Write with details to Managing Director, S.C.M. Press Ltd., 58 Bloomsbury St., London, WC1B 3JX.

LIVE THE CLUB LIFE

Superb young Residential Club in S.W.1 needs a lively Receptionist to handle the Club's telephone and switchboard. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the Club and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: LIVE THE CLUB LIFE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

PERFUME AND POWDER PUFFS £3,300

World-wide famous Cosmetics Company in London is looking for a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Must be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: PERFUME AND POWDER PUFFS, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

NEGOTIATOR MAKE A NAME FOR YOURSELF

We are a well-known Estate Agent in the City and are looking for a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Must be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: NEGOTIATOR, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

MAINZ-ON-THE-RHINE

Fashionable night-club in Mainz, Germany, seeks a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Must be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: MAINZ-ON-THE-RHINE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

CARIBBEAN CRUISING

Caribbean Transports require fully qualified Receptionists to handle the Company's telephone and switchboard. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: CARIBBEAN CRUISING, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

A CAREER IN STAFF MANAGEMENT

A vacancy has occurred for a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Must be able to handle a telephone and a switchboard. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: A CAREER IN STAFF MANAGEMENT, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

NANNIES FOR MIDDLE EAST

Qualified experienced Nannies for middle class families in the Middle East. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: NANNIES FOR MIDDLE EAST, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

BROWNS W.I. & S.W.I

Requires special sales staff for Browns W.I. & S.W.I. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: BROWNS W.I. & S.W.I, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

RIGHT HAND I Administrator/P.A.

For a successful Receptionist/Secretary in a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: RIGHT HAND I, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN CREATIVE WRITING

Graduate with good honours degree in English or Creative Writing. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

Fire extinguishers and equipment contract. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,300 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY/P.A.

up to £3,500

The Chief Executive of the Local office of a Swiss Bank requires a Secretary/P.A. aged 25-35. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will have a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary up to £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY/P.A., 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY IN Y.P.—£4,000

International Entry Group offer a Secretary in a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £4,000 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY IN Y.P., 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

The person appointed to this position will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will have a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY OFFICE SUPERVISOR

Required to manage and lead a team of secretaries in a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY OFFICE SUPERVISOR, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY

Come and work in one of London's most famous hotels in the heart of the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

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Responsible and experienced person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

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Required by busy Architect in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

GERMANY £25,400

Get involved in the World of International Banking. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £25,400 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: GERMANY, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

P.A./SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

International Consultancy located in West End. Previous U.K. business experience required. Minimum age 25. General sec. duties including client liaison, dealing with correspondence. Salary £24,000 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: P.A./SECRETARY, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SECRETARY TO EXPORT DIRECTOR

We are an energetic Company working from modern premises in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SECRETARY TO EXPORT DIRECTOR, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

TOP NICHE AT £3,750

This international company of Management Consultants requires a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: TOP NICHE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

MARKETING ASSISTANT UP TO £4,000

To work as P.A. to the young Sales Manager of a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary up to £4,000 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: MARKETING ASSISTANT, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

PA WITH DRIVE! £3,750 neg.

P.A. Secretary with good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: PA WITH DRIVE!, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

THREE AT £3,750

We'd like to see three (or more) P.A.s who are looking for jobs with that something different about them. One for a creative Director, E.C.4, agency, one for a high-powered Sales Manager, E.C.4, agency, and one for a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: THREE AT £3,750, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

3 or 4 Secretaries in a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: SENIOR SECRETARIES, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

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P.A. to Financial Director

Required by a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: P.A. to Financial Director, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

COLLEGE

Secretaries/College Lecturers in a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: COLLEGE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

BUREAU

Department seeks sales staff for a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: BUREAU, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

COUNTRY HOUSE

Department seeks sales staff for a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: COUNTRY HOUSE, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

ALFRED MARKS

170 BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2 Tel: 245 8882

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Department seeks sales staff for a well-known company in the City. Must be a confident, efficient person with a good knowledge of the City and a good knowledge of the production process. Salary £3,750 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: BUREAU, 43 South Molton Street, W.1.

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ALFRED MARKS

Pegler Hattersley 1977—"A record year"

- Sales increased by 17% to £80.2m—30% of sales came from overseas.
- Profit before tax increased to £18.2m.
- Associated companies made a substantially increased contribution to group results. Divisional trading profits were marginally lower—earnings from building products improved but those of the engineering and valve division did not match last year's high level.
- Earnings per share increased

from 25.3p to 29.9p and the group maintained its strong financial position.

● "We have had a record year in which benefits came from the increase in our international activities, and I anticipate further progress will be made in the future. At present there is a weakness in some of our traditional markets where recovery may be slow, but we are well placed to take advantage of any favourable situation which arises."

RESULTS FOR 1977

	1977 £000	1976 £000
Profit before metal stock appreciation	17,205	14,337
Profit before tax	18,155	14,437
Profit after tax	8,767	7,031
Earnings per share	29.9p	25.3p
Dividend per share (gross)	10.586p	9.625p



J. M. Harrison (Chairman)

Copies of the full report and accounts are available from The Secretary, Pegler Hattersley Limited, St. Catherine's Avenue, Doncaster DN4 8DF.

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CLOTHING AND TEXTILE MANUFACTURERS

Frank Usher

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MacDougall of Scotland

Bush Baby

"Trading figures for the first quarter of the current year are ahead of expectations"

LIONEL L. LEIGHTON, Chairman at the AGM 29th June, 1977

Highlights from the Chairman's Statement for the year ended 31st January, 1977.

- ★ A record trading year for the Group.
- ★ Profit of £3,181m. is in excess of twice that of last year.
- ★ Turnover increased by 20.9% to £48,227m.
- ★ Exports up by 38.2%.
- ★ The dividend which is 21% higher than last year is covered 6.7 times.
- ★ We are currently examining the possibility of establishing a European trading centre.
- ★ The Board can see a further significant increase in profits in the current year.

A COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 1977 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY, 74/80 CAMDEN STREET, LONDON NW1 0EL.

'Our five-year annual average growth rate is over 30% compound. Scotcros will continue to grow.'

Mr. W. R. Alexander, Chairman

Year ended 31 March	1977 £,000	1976 £,000	1975 £,000	1974 £,000	1973 £,000
Sales	20,099	12,770*	11,161*	9,815*	5,497*
Profit before taxation	1,182	731	600	521	280
Earnings per ordinary share	9.2p	6.5p	5.0p	4.2p	3.7p

*These figures have been adjusted for sales of subsidiary companies, either sold or wound up, during the five-year period.

A copy of the report and accounts may be obtained from:
The Secretary, Scotcros Limited
Fitzpatrick House, Cadogan Street, Glasgow G2 6QR

SCOTCROS

Packaging • Food and drink • Transport equipment

FINANCIAL NEWS

Edgar Allen convinced that worst is over

By Ray Maughan

Down from £32.2m to £285,000 pre-tax in the year to April 2 last, Edgar Allen, Balfour is convinced that the worst is over. The damage was caused mostly by the closure of Balfour Darwins Capital tool works factory which precipitated a strike by over 2,000 employees for 10 weeks.

The surgery was drastic, for although the plant had been losing about £500,000 annually over the previous four years, the dispute is estimated to have cost about £2m in lost profits. Terminal losses of £308,000 incurred up to the date of closure on January 28 last have been excluded from the published pre-tax profits.

But chairman Mr John Oakley believes that Balfour Darwins will reward the net £1.8m paid for its acquisition in the spring of 1975. Balfour's steel operations are earning profits, the casting activities turned round at the end of the year, and the magnet manufacturing subsidiary returned to the black last October.

The steel and engineering group as a whole, the directors forecast, should exceed the £3.33m pre-tax profit attained in 1975-76. Optimism is based on an improving order book—up at £22.5m at the balance sheet date and £20.5m at the end of the year—spread across the board.

Capital spending will be maintained at around last year's level of £2.5m and hopes are pinned on improved exports, which were down last year at £9.1m as a result of the strike—particularly in the United States and the Far East.

The dispute, however, has left its mark on the balance sheet and United Kingdom liquidity deteriorated by about £2.5m during the year. But after the release of £4.88m deferred tax, the group's gearing is an "acceptable" 51 per cent, or 62 per cent before the recommendations contained in ED12.

The board is confident that borrowing facilities are more than adequate for future plans and contingencies and, for the foreseeable future, a rights issue or some form of fresh equity funding are emphatically ruled out.

If Edgar Allen, Balfour can recover all the ground lost last year, a return to profits of over £3.3m pre-tax indicates a price earnings ratio of just over 4. The shares climbed up to 67p yesterday and the market received further reassurance by the decision to pay the maximum permitted dividend of 6.67p gross per share from stated earnings of only 0.2p per share.

Peak profit at Morgan-Grampian as UK sales reach record levels

By Alison Mitchell

Proving that it has travelled back along the road to recovery, publisher Morgan-Grampian unwrapped record profits for the year to March 31 last.

On sales which soared to a peak of £24,500,000 from £20,100,000, pre-tax profits rose from £955,000 to break the £2m barrier for the first time at £2,120,000.

This was in fact slightly down on the £2,200,000 pre-tax budgeted for by Morgan-Grampian's directors at the beginning of the year, but it pleased the market well enough and the initial reaction "was to mark up shares 3p to 109p."

The biggest money-earner in the United Kingdom was Morgan-Grampian Business Press, with almost all its magazines increasing market share. The consumer press division, which since January 1 has taken in the profits from newly-acquired Music Week, made great strides in the period.

Rationalization of the book publishing company, putting all directories into one unit, gives this side of the business its first successful year. And new chairman Mr Graham Sherren revealed that it is all set for further development.

The joke in the press continues to be the American subsidiary David McKay. A hard winter and the presidential election kept growth slow, but a return to profitability is in sight, said the chairman.

For the past two years the company has been concentrating on do-it-yourself and reference books such as the *Podor Travel Guides*. The results should begin to show through in the current year.

The college division, not viable at its present size, is to be sold to Longman for around £800,000 (about £470,600). But taking the American side in total—including the magazine division—the offshoot turned a £1,570,000 loss into a £134,000 profit.

The future at home looks bright with a number of new magazines contributing to profits for the first time this year.

In May, Morgan launched the *Weight Watchers Magazine* for slimmers as well as taking over the publishing of the medical journal *The Practitioner* from Pearson Longman.

And in the autumn a product catalogue for farmers, *What's New in Farming*, is to be started up.

"The opportunity for growth is substantial by maximizing the profits of our established magazines, by acquisition and by launching new magazines," said Mr Sherren.

There is a second interim dividend of 5.84 pence making an annual total of 10.45 pence, and the promise of a further payment if ACT is reduced.

However, without Government restrictions, the dividend would probably have been doubled Mr Sherren reported.

Harder going at Court's (Furnishers) after record

Tougher trading conditions and the large devaluation in Jamaica are likely to reduce operating profits at Court's (Furnishers) in the current year, although the group will not be transferring as much as deferred profits as it did last year.

This warning accompanies the group's results for the year to March 31, which show a rise in operating profits of 9 per cent to £7.5m, an turnover up from £40m to £47.3m.

This rise is not reflected in the pre-tax level, which stays at £7.5m, against £6.8m last year, because £1.1m has been transferred to deferred profits, compared with £1.56m last year.

Shareholders are to collect a dividend of 4.8p gross, compared with 4.35p last year, while earnings a share are 14.4p against 13.1p.

The board says that these record results reflect increased trading profits in both the United Kingdom and overseas. Although the rate of increase was lower in the second half of the year, this period showed a slight rise in profits from £2.89m to £2.9m.

Commenting on the "steep rise in transfers to deferred profits," Mr E. G. Cohen, the chairman, says that total deferred profits now amount to £11.3m, and will flow into profits in future years.

During the past year new stores have been opened in Singapore, Perth, Edinburgh, Colchester and Haverhill, and so far in the current year at Truro, Clapham Junction in London, and Toowoomba, Australia. Including the new branches, turnover so far this year is slightly ahead of the United Kingdom and overseas, although trading conditions at home and in certain overseas countries have been difficult.

In the interim statement, Mr Cohen explained that the large increase in transfers to deferred profits—of £1.1m—compared with £1.56m—reflected growth in the credit business during 1976, following the lifting of Hire Purchase controls in December 1975.

Another factor here was the continued progress of the overseas subsidiaries. At that time, the accumulated deferred profit stood at more than £2.4m.

At that time, no account was taken of exchange rate fluctuations, but the full year's results show that these amounted to £227,000 against £476,000, after allowing for property provisions.

A final dividend of 6.2847p raises the annual total by 15 per cent to £12.73p. Treasury permission has been obtained.

Down slides building but up goes BPB

By Desmond Quigley

BPB Industries increased pre-tax profits by 41 per cent to £27.1m in the year to the end of last March despite being confronted by lower building activity in the countries in which it operates.

Indeed the volume of plasterboard sold increased as its market penetration rose, while higher prices improved profit margins.

In France, where the group already accounts for some 65 per cent of the plasterboard market, pre-tax profits increased from £1.8m to £3.7m.

With its low current consumption of plasterboard by comparison, for example, with the UK, France is seen as a major growth area for BPB as plasterboard displaces wet plastering on a large scale.

Despite the extremely low level of housing starts in the UK, the group's building products did well in the home market with profits increasing from £10.7 to £13.3m while paper and packaging profits in the home market increased from £1.6m to £3.7m.

A second interim dividend of 5.27p gross has been declared to take the total for the year to 10.502p gross compared with 9.54p the year before. A third interim dividend of 0.106p will be paid if the Government reduces the basic income tax rate to 33 per cent.

The shares rose 6p to 175p yesterday to yield 6 per cent and to sell at 5.5 times earnings of 31.7p a share.

Although standing at their 1976/1977 high, the shares are attractive long term on the basis of an anticipated price rise in housing starts as well as the growth potential offered in Europe generally and France in particular, even if the group is not looking for such a higher percentage profits increase this year.

Margins dip at Hicking Pentecost

Hicking Pentecost, the textile and dyeing group, show a slight increase in pre-tax profit from £410,000 to £420,500 for the year to March 31 last.

Turnover showed a better improvement, rising £21m to £84.4m, but margins slipped from 5.66 per cent to 4.97 per cent.

Last year's reorganization of the knitwear division, coupled with a 37 per cent increase in exports, more than doubled profits on this side.

But the news was not so good from the lying plants. Reduced demand for fabric printing, particularly in the last four months of the year, slashed pre-tax profits from £208,000 to £52,000.

Since the beginning of April trading has continued to be slow in this division but Mr Alan Pentecost, chairman, is confident that a planned programme of rationalization should enable the group to make better use of resources.

The current year has started well for knitwear exports and although there has been some decline on the home market, the order book is "satisfactory" to the year end.

A final dividend of 6.2847p raises the annual total by 15 per cent to £12.73p. Treasury permission has been obtained.

Edbro cautious as it waits for a recovery

Overseas business kept Edbro (Holdings), the upper-truck engineering group, waiting for a recovery in the full year's results competition in a weak market.

The group boosted pre-tax profits 40 per cent to £3.6m on sales a fifth up to £22.7m. The figure was in line with the chairman's interim forecast but some had hoped for more.

Mr L. Tinsdale, chairman, said yesterday that present indications are for a fairly flat year. But if hopes of a recovery in construction and civil engineering prove correct the position could alter dramatically.

After a period of short-time working in February and March the group is back on full production in all but two minor areas.

Earnings per share last year were 37p, up from 24.1p, and a final dividend of 5.81p gross increases the total by the maximum to 8.61p. The payment is more than four times covered.

J. BILM Sales continue to grow steadily and higher turnover throughout the year is every indication of further improved results.

Renault turns huge loss into large profit

International

After the French car industry's crisis year of 1975—particularly bad for Renault—the Renault Group ended 1976 with record production and turned the previous year's loss of 551m francs (about 63.3m) into a net profit of 610m francs. Renault says that the results are among the best ever achieved.

M. Bernard Vernier-Palliez, president of the Regie Renault, said that for the first time production by Renault and its commercial vehicle subsidiaries, Berliet and Saviem, exceeded 1.75m vehicles, representing 45 per cent of French vehicle production and confirming Renault's position as the leading French motor builder.

In 1976, Renault's total output was 1.6 million vehicles—up by 19.3 per cent of which 1.5 million were private cars—up 16 per cent—and 159,000 light commercial vehicles. This was an increase of 61.6 per cent.

This increase was achieved in spite of advances made on the French market by some importers.

First profit (for 1976) in its history, but delays in domestic nuclear power projects promise thin times ahead, according to Herr Klaus Barthelt, chairman. Herr Barthelt said that because of long lead times in power plant projects, especially nuclear plants, Renault's figures are subject to sharp fluctuations.

In 1976, sales rose to DM4,500m (about £1,071m) from DM1,300m in the previous year. The profit was DM40.4m against a 1975 loss of DM40.4m.

Bethlehem Copper

Mr Bryan Reynolds, president of the Bethlehem Copper Corporation, says that a Cominco offering price of \$18 a share for Bethlehem stock is "considerably less than the conservatively estimated value of shares". Mr Reynolds referred to comments in the report where Bethlehem estimated current value per share at between \$23 and \$25. Cominco is controlled by Canadian Pacific and is a producer of precious metals.

Bayer still optimistic

Bayer AG, the world chemical group based in West Germany, can still reach its goal of a 6 per cent growth in sales this year, even though world turnover in the first half was only 3 per cent above 1976 levels, Herr Herbert Gruenewald, the chairman, says. Herr Gruenewald did not give figures. In 1976, Bayer had world sales totalling DM20,900m (about £4,576m). The Bayer statement comes after pessimistic reports from the other two major German chemical concerns, Hoechst AG and BASF AG. Both of these companies are raising lowered estimates of sales growth because of slower than anticipated growth in the first half year.

American Electric Power

American Electric Power says that its offering of nine million shares of common stock has been substantially oversubscribed. The rights offering to shareholders, which ended last Friday, was on a 1-for-1 basis at \$22 a share. Proceeds from the sale are estimated at \$196m (about £115.2m) and will be used to repay short-term debt.

Magnetics narrows loss

Fabbrica Italiana Magnetics (FIM) the electronic equipment group, has cut its 1976 loss to \$1.1m from \$1.7m.

Lonsdale Universal

Lonsdale Universal's subsidiary, Lonsdale Universal Stationers is to sell Scottish interests to D. C. Courlay, an offshoot of Scotchbros of Glasgow. Proceeds will be more than book value of £250,000.

Kansallis Osake

Kansallis Osake-Pankki, Finland's largest commercial bank, plans to offer on July 7 \$30m (about £17.6m) of six-year floating-rate notes through a syndicate led by the European Banking Company. The notes are expected to be priced at par and bear semi-annual interest at the higher of either 6.5 per cent or 0.25 points above prevailing six-month interbank *Banque* offered rates.

Brickhouse undismayed

Despite the construction slump and one of the wettest winters this century Brickhouse Dudley, the maker and supplier of drainage products for the civil engineering and building industries, managed to hold its own with profits steady at £1.59m in the year to end March last. This compares with a previous £1.6m.

Sales climbed almost 6 per cent to £18.13m with much of the improvement coming unexpectedly in the merchandising division.

However, demand slumped on the manufacturing side putting most plants on short-time working.

Incidental costs associated with the closure of Prince Foundry earlier this year drained £37,900 from profits while depreciation accounted for £196,000.

Looking ahead, Mr Michael Huxtable, chairman, says the first half profits for 1977 last year's £832,000 pre-tax. This does not mean that the full year results will be unsatisfactory, he adds. The worst passed and full-time working has been resumed.

Earnings per share slipped from 5.12p to 5.04p while final dividend of 2.2122p gives a maximum annual total covered 2.4 times of 3.28512p.

Business appointments

Pearson Longman names new finance director

Mr Reg West succeeds Mr Frank Taylor as finance director of Pearson Longman and joins the boards of the *Financial Times* and *Westminster Press*. Mr Taylor is retiring.

Mr F. Lloyd has become managing director of *Trading Profit*. Mr B. Hopper has resigned from the board.

Mr P. E. Barker has joined the board of *Hydramet*. Mr Anthony Holt is a shareholder of *Roberts Aldard*. Mr Benjamin Wrey has been made a director of *Electric* at dividend per 2 General Investment.

Mr J. N. Day and Mr S. Phillips have been made life directors of *Wills Faber*.

Mr C. P. Spradon and a supplying firm have been made very difficult.

Mr George Heath has been made managing director of *Fla* for future progress (1999).

Stock Exchange Prices

Subdued session

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

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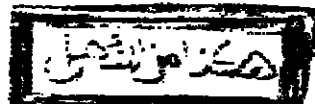
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